# HELICON ANNUAL 2.0.2.4

The Official Publication of Psi Iota Xi, Incorporated



Psi Iota Xi National Convention 2024 Fort Wayne, Indiana

### **Directory by City of Active and Auxiliary Chapters**

ANDERSON, IN ZB ZETA BETA	EC	DELPHI, IN BΨ BETA PSI & AUX	NW	LAGRANGE, KY IX IOTA CHI	SE	REMINGTON, IN ΓΒ GAMMA BETA	NW
ANGOLA, IN P RHO	NE	EDON, OH OK THETA KAPPA	NE	LEBANON, IN Ω OMEGA	WC	RENSSELAER, IN HN ETA NU	NW
ARMSTRONG, IL IO IOTA THETA	WC	FARMLAND, IN BI BETA IOTA	ED	LEXINGTON, KY ON THETA NU	SE	RICHMOND, IN AI ALPHA IOTA	EC
ATTICA, IN ΓΔ GAMMA DETLA	WC	FERDINAND, IN IA IOTA LAMBDA	SW	LOGANSPORT, IN AE ALPHA XI	NW	ROCHESTER, IN HM ETA MU	NW
AUSTIN, IN BΣ BETA SIGMA	SE	FLORA, IN BA BETA ALPHA	NW	LOUISVILLE, KY ZI ZETA IOTA	SE	RUSHVILLE, IN I OTA	SE
BARGERSVILLE, IN ZE ZETA EPSILON	WC	FORT BRANCH, IN ZETA GAMMA	SW	MADISON, IN ZE ZETA XI	SE	SEYMOUR, IN AB ALPHA BETA	SW
BEDFORD, IN BΛ BETA LAMBDA	SW	FORT RECOVERY, OH OZ THETA ZETA	EC	MARION, IN ΓΤ GAMMA TAU	EC	SHELBYVILLE, IN BΦ BETA PHI	SE
BEECH GROVE, IN HΛ ETA LAMBDA	WC	FORT WAYNE, IN I	NE	MARTINSVILLE, IN HX ETA CHI	sw	SHOALS, IN FI GAMMA IOTA	SW
BETHANY, IL ΘΨ THETA PSI	WC	FORT WAYNE, IN OO THETA THETA	NE	MENTONE, IN BE BETA EPSILON	NE	SOUTH BEND, IN ΓΣ GAMMA SIGMA	NW
BLOOMINGTON, IN Z ZETA	SW	FORTVILLE, IN AΦ ALPHA PHI	EC	MIDLAND, MI OT THETA TAU	NE	SPEEDWAY, IN ΓΘ GAMMA THETA	WC
BLUFFTON, IN AH ALPHA ETA	NE	FRANKFORT, IN BT BETA TAU & AU	WC X	MILROY, IN ZT ZETA TAU	SE	ST. JOSEPH, IL IΣ IOTA SIGMA	wc
BREMEN, IN ΘΔ THETA DELTA	NW	GARRETT, IN AP ALPHA RHO	NE	MONTICELLO, IN OI THETA IOTA	NW	SULLIVAN, IN BB BETA BETA	SW
BROOKSTON, IN Z CHI	NW	GOSHEN, IN BP BETA RHO	NE	MT. VERNON, OH BY BETA UPSILON	EC	SUMMITVILLE, IN BZ BETA ZETA	EC
BROWNSBURG, IN FN GAMMA NU	WC	GREENFIELD, IN Y UPSILON	SE	MUNCIE, IN A ALPHA	EC	THORNTOWN, IN AZ ALPHA ZETA AU	WC X
BROWNSTOWN, IN BM BETA MU	WC	GREENSBURG, IN Σ SIGMA	SE	NAPPANEE, IN HZ ETA ZETA	NW	VALPARAISO, IN HΓ ETA GAMMA	NW
CAMBRIDGE CITY, IN BIT BETA PI	EC	HAGERSTOWN, IN AX ALPHA CHI	EC	NASHVILLE, IN HA ETA ALPHA	sw	VINCENNES, IN AO ALPHA OMICRO	SW N
CAMEL, IN HΔ ETA DELTA	WC	HARTFORD CITY, IN AM ALPHA MU	EC	NILES, MI ZO ZETA THETA	NW	WASHINGTON, IN AW ALPHA PSI	SW
CHARLE STOWN, IN AO ALPHA THETA	SE	HUNTINGTON, IN Φ PHI	NE	NORTH VERNON, IN AΩ ALPHA OMEGA	SE	WINAMAC, IN IE IOTA XI	NW
CLARKSBURG, IN IΦ IOTA PHI	SE	INDIANAPOLIS, IN IT IOTA TAU	WC	ODON, IN IP IOTA RHO	SW	WOLCOTT, IN FY GAMMA UPSILO	NW N
COLUMBUS, IN E EPSILON	SE	JASPER, IN ZM ZETA MU	SW	OSSIAN, IN ΓΖ GAMMA ZETA	NE	AA ALPHA LAMBDA	WC &
CONNERSVILLE, IN ZA ZETA LAMBDA	SE	KALAMAZOO, MI HO ETA OMICRON	NE	PAOLI, IN OB THETA BETA	SW	AUX VIRTUAL CHAPTER	wc
CRAWFORDSVILLE, IN	N WC	KNIGHTSTOWN, IN FH GAMMA ETA	ED	PARKER CITY, IN HI ETA IOTA	ED	IY IOTA UPSILON	
CROWN POINT, IN BE BETAXI	NW	KOKOMO, IN K KAPPA	EC	PERU, IN BΓ BETA GAMMA	NE		
DECATUR, IN AΔ ALPHA DELTA	NE	LAFAYETTE, IN ΔZ DELTA ZETA	WC	PORTLAND , IN ΓΑ GAMMA ALPHA	EC	UPDATED 8/2024	

### 2024 HELICON

2023 - 2024 History November 2024 Volume CXXII

The Official Annual History of PSI IOTA XI, INC.

www.psiiotaxi.org

#### **FOUNDED:**

September 19, 1897 Muncie, Indiana

#### **FOUNDERS:**

#### **Teachers:**

Mrs. Martha Ivins Miss Emma Cammack Miss Eva Kessler

#### Students:

Huda Smith (Kimbrough)
Mayme Johnson (Oesterle)
Ethelyn Dowell (Hinckley)
Mary Louise Carmichael
Sue Derexa Smith

Jane Patton National Editor

<u>Layout/Typesetting</u> Jane Patton

<u>Printed by</u> Country Pines, Inc.



#### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Chapter Directory by City Inside front cover
Chapter Dedication: Zeta Mu, Jasper, IN2-3
2023-2024 National President 4
2023-2024 National Council 5
National Secretary, Convention Synopsis 6-7
Psi Ote of the Year8-9
National Project Highlights 10
National Long Term Project11
Past National Presidents, 1960 - Present
2023-2024 Charitable Contributions
State Associations
Award Recipients 16-17
Literature/Literacy Grant Winners 18
National Conductress, Editor
Button Awards 20-21
Convention Highlights
Convention Invitations
Northeast District
Northwest District
East Central District
West Central District
Southeast District 57-64
Southwest District 65-71
National Memorial Fund
Memorial Service
Fallen Petals
2024-2025 National President 78-80
Chapter Anniversaries 80
2024-2025 National Council
2024-2025 National and State Contacts 82
2024-2025 Project Representatives Directory 83
Chapter Location Map84
Chapter Index, Greek Letter Key Inside back cover

## Zeta Mu - Fasper, Indiana

We respectfully dedicate the 2024 edition of the Helicon to YOU, for your 63 years of service to your chapter, your community, and your national organization. Your loyalty, allegiance, and enthusiasm is an example of the true spirit of

### Psi Iota Xi

The Zeta Mu Chapter of Psi Iota Xi in Jasper, Indiana celebrated its 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in October 2024. Zeta Mu became the 99<sup>th</sup> chapter of Psi Iota Xi in October 1959. The charter members were Bev Hoffman, Esther Rumbach, Pat Hedinger, Helen Bohnert, Marianna Gosman, Pat Weisheit, Dottie Keller, Joanne Woolsey, Rosie Rees, Doris Gutzweiler, Suzanne Kress, Pat Ebenkamp, Sue Gutgsell, Mary Ann Alles, Lenore Stemply, Mary Ann Hedinger, Lucy Nelson, Elfrieda Fleck, Gloria Kleiser Reiber and Claudia Hutchinson. Pat Hedinger and Gloria Kleiser Reiber are the remaining charter members living today.

In 1962 the Zeta Mu chapter recognized the needs of the mentally ill persons, some whose behavior would often lead to jail confinement. It was noted in 1962 that 50% of persons in jail have mental health issues. Today that number remains at 44%. The chapter held fundraisers, including a charity ball, to fund a special room in the Mental Health Unit at Memorial Hospital, Jasper, to hold patients waiting for permanent placement, rather than being placed in jail. The cost to attend the ball was \$1.00. The membership made three separate donations to this project.

In June 1963 two members of Zeta Mu, Suzanne Kress and Pat Ebenkamp were traveling from Jasper to Muncie for a National Convention. These ladies were involved in an automobile accident resulting in the death of Suzanne Kress as well as severely injuring Pat Ebemkamp. Zeta Mu created a scholarship in memory of Suzanne Kress for high school senior students, furthering their education in speech/language, literature or music. The scholarship is renewable for four years. Zeta Mu continues this annual scholarship to this day.

In 1972 Zeta Mu began its premier local project, the Speech and Language Camp for children ages 4-8 years. The camp is held for a few weeks during the summer at no cost to the children. In 2005 the focus of the camp changed to Language and Literacy to better serve the evolving needs of the children The camp is staffed by certified teachers.

In 1972 Zeta Mu's Auxiliary Chapter was formed to allow long-time members to focus on fun and friendship while maintaining ties to the active chapter. In 2010 the Auxiliary Chapter closed with several members returning to Active membership.

In 1985, Zeta Mu hosted the welcome party for National Convention. Barbara Perkins was president that year. Some of our members dressed up as the main characters of Wizard of Oz, the theme for the party.

The Zeta Mu chapter chose to celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries with dinner/dances. The 25<sup>th</sup> was held at the K of C facility in 1984 and the 50<sup>th</sup> was held at Sultan's Run Golf Course in 2009. Charter members Pat Ebenkamp, Pat Hedinger, and Beverly Hoffman attended our 50th anniversary celebration.

The Zeta Mu Chapter hosted the National Convention in 2008, held in Evansville to honor Zeta Mu's Deb Stemle, National President 2007-2008. The theme of the convention was "Magic of Psi Otes". The chapter members needed to "learn" about hosting a convention, so many of the members attended the 2007 National Conference in Ft. Wayne as training. The entire process of learning and hosting National Conventions was so much fun! Lots of hard work and attention to detail helped to make this project a success.



Zeta Mu sisters hosting the 2008 National Convention.

Because of several issues with our Convention venue, we received a check for \$10,000 as a refund. Our chapter presented these funds, plus interest, as seed money to National Council when the Long Term Project, Northwest Ohio Intensive Stuttering Clinic and Research Fund, was launched in 2012.

Additional local projects include sponsoring a Hoosier Girls State delegate, and donations to Friends of the Library, and Jasper Community Arts Commission. We purchased a specially trained dog for a local hearing-impaired girl. We have held Easter parties at a local nursing home for residents and their families, led

games at Jasper Library's Halloween party, and members answered "Letters to Santa". We made hand -made holiday cards and provided gift bags to two local nursing homes during our Share the Love event. We have collected items and financial donations for local charities such as the Dove House, USO at Camp Atterbury, The Trotter House, Crisis Connection, Matrix Lifeline, and our local Food Bank.

To fund these endeavors, in the early years the chapter held cheese/sausage sales (replaced by current nut/ candy sales), dances, card parties, cookbook sales, Country Auctions, and volunteers to work shifts at Holiday World. Zeta Mu currently has several fundraisers. The fall nut and candy sales are a big hit in the community as well as the summer Art and Wine Festival held in conjunction with Jasper's Strassenfest. In 2024 the chapter added a new event, the Jasper Schnitzeljagd (Scavenger Hunt). The committee identified local sites and developed cryptic clues to identify those sites. Teams had two hours to locate the site, take a photo and return to the finish line. This event was held in conjunction with Old Jasper Days in May. Nine teams participated in this inaugural event. This event was well received by local officials and our community.



Zeta Mu sisters, Marci Backer, Lynn Arthur, Nan Mehringer, and Patty Boeglin, at the Art & Wine Festival.

Zeta Mu became aware of a need in our community. The Southwestern Indiana Child Advocacy Center Coalition (SWICACC), established in 2022, is an organization that provides a safe reporting location for child victims and their families. The center coordinates the investigation, prosecution, and treatment of child abuse while helping children heal. In 2022, SWICACC worked with over 255 children across eight counties in Southwest Indiana. SWICACC receives no government funding, therefore is entirely supported by grants and donations.

Zeta Mu reached out to area Psi Iota Xi chapters, six of which are participating, to collaborate on a group project to provide funds for SWICACC. These chapters jointly applied for and received grant money from the Indiana Association of Psi Iota Xi for 2023 and 2024! In the fall of 2023, Zeta Mu hosted a dinner meeting at the

SWICACC offices with members from the collaborating chapters and made the first grant presentation to SWICACC. These funds will be used to obtain educational materials, such as training guides, brochures, and books for the children. In addition to financial support, members have donated meals to the staff, snacks for the children, and cleaning supplies.

In 2023, Zeta Mu also collaborated with local officials promoting a children's book *Enlow: Chubby Cheeks and Jasper Streets*, written by a local author and featuring the local community. The release of the book was in conjunction with Kids Day on the Square. Zeta Mu sponsored a coloring page contest with the release of the book, awarding several copies of the book to local Jasper third grade students.

In March of 2024, Zeta Mu launched The Senior Art Award to recognize local Dubois County high school seniors' artistic skills. The cash award will be presented annually in conjunction with the annual Youth Art Exhibit at the Jasper Community Arts Commission Gallery. The project was well received by local art teachers, students and Jasper Community Arts Commission. Art teachers from outside Dubois County served as judges and Erica Frank of Southridge High School, Huntingburg received the inaugural prize of \$500. Because of the popularity of the program, next year, the chapter will underwrite two awards - one each for 2-D and 3-D projects.



Erica Frank, a senior from Southridge High School, was awarded the inaugural Psi Iota Xi Senior Art Award at the Youth Art Exhibit at the Jasper Community Arts Commission Gallery in 2024.

The sisters of Zeta Mu continue to enjoy many of our favorite traditions: Lunch Bunch, when sisters meet once a month at a local restaurant for lunch; business meetings at fun or educational locations, SWICACC offices, the Art Gallery, the Library, or an Escape Room; as well as various crafting events, holiday dinners, Halloween parties, picnics, and game nights.

The sisters of the Zeta Mu chapter of Psi Iota Xi will continue to live up to our closing verse: "It is a noble thing to give cheer to those less fortunate about you. Let us then be of good cheer that the lives of those about us may be enriched." Pax Vobiscum

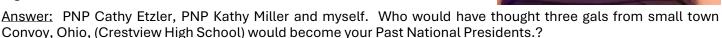
# Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery 2023-2024 National President Theta Theta - Fort Wayne, Indiana

In 1999, I joined the Beta Delta chapter of Psi Iota Xi when my cousin, PNP Kathy Miller, was preparing for her 2004 national convention; little did I know I would follow the same path 20 years later.

These past years on council have flown in the blink of an eye. From all the cheerful moments at chapter visits & celebrations, the many times we laughed until we cried at council weekends, my many travels with PNP Pat Menge and the many mornings I would call PNP Mo Dix... just because. I have gained true "sister" friendships I can lean on for the rest of my days. What a cherished thought!

One person I could not have traveled this road without is my husband, Greg. I am truly blessed for his love and support. My heart is a bit sad because my cousins Betty and Kathy (Miller) were called to Heaven before convention. I guess God had other plans for them but I know they were looking down and guiding me. I miss them dearly!

Trivia Question: Who are the three Past National Presidents from the same high school in Ohio?



My year as your national president was filled with many roller coaster rides but I knew my gals on national council would be there to guide and support me. I prayed and consulted many times for the best decision in order to lead Psi lota Xi in the right direction. One accomplishment I am very proud of is being very fiscally responsible with Psi Ote funds.

As I serve my final year as your national advisor, I am reminded of my speech at the 2023 national convention, "Just Ask". No matter who, where or when... "Just Ask" a gal to become a member of this fantastic organization that I love so dearly!

Pax Vobiscum,

Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery National President Theta Theta, Fort Wayne, IN



"Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day, unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed and very dear." ~ Irish Proverb



Rhonda and her husband, Greg, at National Convention.



Rhonda and her chapter, Theta Theta, at National Convention in Fort Wayne, IN.



#### 2023-2024 NATIONAL COUNCIL

Front Row (L to R): Maureen "Mo" Dix, National Advisor; Sandie Carlson, National Secretary; Mickie Hansen, National Vice President; Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, National President; Taffy Day, National Treasurer; Mona Knight, National Project Chair.

Back Row (L to R): Terri Resler, National Editor; Lauren Huyvaert, Northeast District Officer; Pam Gunterman, Northwest District Officer; Beth Vipond, East Central District Officer; Missy Cooper, West Central District Officer, Carol Good, Southeast District Officer; Jane Patton, Southwest District Officer; Valerie Helms-Mejia, National Conductress.

## 2023-2024 All Totals

PHILANTHROPIC CONTR	TOTAL ACTIVE	
Total by Chapters	\$791,597.20	<u>MEMBERSHIP</u> <b>1,708</b>
Total by State Associations	\$ 11,000.00	1,700
<b>Total by National Project Funds</b>	\$ 25,000.00	
Total by National LTP Fund	\$ 15,500.00	GRAND TOTAL OF ALL PHILANTHROPIC
<b>Total by Past National Presidents</b>	\$ 2,341.93	CONTRIBUTIONS
Total by Endowments	\$ 6,453.44	\$851,892.57

## Psi Jota Xi National Convention Synopsis 2024

The 121st Convention of Psi Iota Xi was held June 22-23, 2024, at the Grand Wayne Convention Center in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Registration for this convention was 285. Theta Theta, Fort Wayne, Indiana was the host chapter.

Father Tom Adamson, Priest in Charge at Holy Family Episcopal, Angola, IN gave the invocation.

Mayor Sharon Tucker, Mayor of Fort Wayne, IN, welcomed the membership to Fort Wayne, IN.

Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, National President announced the following:

#### 2023-2024 Psi Iota Xi Philanthropic Contributions

Profit Earned by 92 Chapters	\$796,073.87
Total Amount Spent for Speech and Hearing by Chapters	\$154,399.55
Total Amount Spent for Music by Chapters	\$ 97,192.13
Total Amount Spent for Art by Chapters	\$126,579.23
Total Amount Spent for "Other" by Chapters	\$328,255.69
Total Amount Spent for Literature/Literacy Projects by Chapters	\$123,614.60

Total All Philanthropic Projects by All Psi Iota Xi Chapters,
State Associations and National including National Grants: \$851,892.57

The National Psi Ote of the Year was Pat Brunt, Beta Zeta, Summitville, IN.

Our Keynote Speaker was Barb Richards, retired radio host, Fort Wayne, IN.

District Officers' workshops during convention were held this year from the podium. Saturday there were two workshops, Riley Hospital and Elsie L Sweeney; and one on Sunday, The Hoosier Art Salon. The Button Awards were announced during the workshops. The District Officer recognized the selected chapters in each district.

Several Bylaw changes were proposed and approved. Changes will be updated in the National Bylaws.

Theta Theta, Fort Wayne, IN, conducted the Memorial Service on Sunday Morning.

#### **Top Awards Presentation**

#### **Cultural Awards:**

Largest amount per capita for all Music Projects – Alpha Eta, Bluffton, \$439.09 Largest amount per capita to Art Projects – Beta Alpha, Flora, \$700.00 Largest amount given to all Cultural Projects – Zeta, Bloomington, \$19,150.00

#### **Speech and Hearing Awards:**

Largest amount per capita for Speech & Hearing Projects – Iota, Rushville, \$846.15

#### **Other Projects:**

Largest amount per capita Other Projects – Pi, Fort Wayne, \$ 1,935.69

#### **All Philanthropic Awards:**

Largest amount per capita for all Philanthropic – Beta Alpha, Flora, \$2,525.29

#### **Literature/Literacy Award:**

Largest amount per capita for Literature/Literacy Projects – Beta Alpha, Flora, \$ 718.87 Largest amount given for Literature/Literacy – Beta Alpha, Flora, \$ 14,377.49 Largest amount given to a single project – Pi, Fort Wayne, \$ 44,260.00





**Sandie Carlson**NATIONAL SECRETARY
Theta Kappa - Edon, OH

Mona Knight, National Project Chair, presented a check in the amount of \$16,500 to Ellyn McCall, Hear Indiana for the Long-Term Project.

Past National President, Sara Overway, reported on the status of the Memorial Fund. By the direction of the Past National Presidents, she moved that the interest earned on the 2023-2024 Psi Iota Xi National Memorial Fund, and all the donations made directly to the scholarship and half of the 50/50 raffle be used for the Gallaudet University Dance Scholarship. The amount approved was \$5,408.58.

#### 2024-2025 Approved National Projects:

A motion was called to approve the National Projects. The motion carried and the following projects were approved:

Little Peeps Pediatric Hearing Healthcare Fund \$1,000; St Joseph Institute's Early Intervention and iHear Program \$1,500; Bethel College Sign Language Interpreting Program \$2,500; American Speech Language Hearing Foundation \$2,000; Metropolitan Opera Laffont Council Auditions \$2,000; Music Therapy Studio – Riley Cheer Guild \$4,000; Silver String Dulcimer Program \$1000; Hoosier Salon Patrons Assoc. Annual Hoosier Salon Art Exhibit \$5,000; Hear Indiana Spoken Language Camp \$1,000; Camp Shout Out \$2,000; Literature/Literacy Grants \$3,000.

The National Literacy/Literature grants were awarded to:

- Northern Districts Phi, Huntington, IN
- Central Districts Beta Iota, Farmland, IN
- Southern Districts Zeta Mu, Jasper, IN

#### **Convention Invitations:**

2025 National Convention, hosted by Upsilon, Greenfield, will be held in Indianapolis, IN, June 27-29, 2025.

An invitation was presented for the 2026 National Convention, to be hosted by Omega, Lebanon, IN, and take place in Indianapolis, IN.

A motion was presented and approved that the 124th National Convention be hosted by Theta Kappa, Edon, Ohio.

Installation of the New 2024-2025 National Officers was conducted.

- National President, Mickie Hansen, Upsilon, Greenfield, IN
- National Vice President, Taffy Day, Omega, Lebanon, IN
- National Secretary, Sandie Carlson, Theta Kappa, Edon, OH
- National Treasurer, Mona Knight, Iota Theta, Armstrong, IL
- National Project Chair, Terri Resler, Alpha Psi, Washington, IN

Mickie Hansen, new National President, announced her appointments for National Conductress, National Editor, and District Officers.

- National Conductress, Valerie Helms-Mejia, Alpha, Muncie, IN
- National Editor, Jane Patton, Alpha Omicron, Vincennes, IN
- Northeast District Officer, Lauren Huyvaert, Gamma Sigma, South Bend, IN
- Northwest District Officer, Pam Gunterman, Theta Delta, Bremen, IN
- East Central District Officer, Beth Vipond, Gamma Tau, Marion, IN
- West Central District Officer, Missy Cooper, Gamma Nu, Brownsburg, IN
- Southeast District Officer, Carol Good, Alpha Theta, Charlestown, IN
- Southwest District Officer, Erin Schroering, lota Lambda, Ferdinand, IN

Respectfully submitted, Sandie Carlson National Secretary, 2023-2024 Theta Kappa, Edon, OH



## National Psi Ote of the Year



Patricia "Pat" Brunt
Beta Zeta
Summitville, IN

Spoken from the podium by National Conductress, Valerie Helms-Mejia at the 2024 National Convention:

#### 2024 National Psi Ote of the Year

As National Conductress, one of my duties is to chair the Psi Ote of the Year or POOTY committee. I don't know about you, but it took me a time or two to figure out that POOTY was Psi Ote of the Year!

I had a wonderful committee this year that worked very hard to choose just the right sister for the 2024 Psi Ote of the Year. I would like to introduce

Psi Iote

you to the committee, Susie Lewis, Past National President; Lauren Huyvaert, Northeast District Officer; Melissa Cooper, West Central District Officer; Jane Patton, Southwest District Officer; Terri Resler, National Editor. Thank you, sisters, for all your time and dedication to this committee and the selection process. I would also like to extend a big thank you to all twenty-one chapters who submitted sisters for consideration. All the nominees were amazing! I am so excited to tell you about our 2024 Psi Ote of the Year! I think the best way to do that is to read the beautiful words written by one of her chapter sisters.

"Our chapter's nominee for the 2024 Psi Ote of the Year Award is a member who demonstrates loyalty, service, cooperation, and experience in supporting the aims of Psi Iota Xi. She is the longest Active member of our chapter and has been serving our chapter and our goals in the community for 62 continuous years. She has encouraged, positively suggested, and participated in our decisions and pursuits while supporting us, her family, and countless students throughout her teaching career.

Her chapter involvement in 2023-24 is constant and dependable. As we began our 23-24 year, her work on our "Member Recruitment" committee was key to our initiation of 3 new members. She was involved from the writing of the first "outreach letter" to the night of initiation when she served as our Installing Officer. (She has taken on that role several times for our chapter since our past National Officer was no longer available to us.) This year, she has again served as Recording & Corresponding Secretary, Convalescent Center Chairman, budget committee member, and as a



meeting hostess in November. Her attendance during this year was 100%, which is usual. She volunteers for adult tutoring and math at our local library. She also delivers Communion to appropriate residents at the local convalescent center, each Sunday as needed. She is identified as a Psi lota Xi member, (aka "one of those cheeseball ladies") in her multiple acts of chapter outreach and service.

She is always willing to substitute for an officer who cannot host or perform a task, especially as Recording or Corresponding Secretary, or by conducting a business meeting when needed. She is always willing, if possible, to attend the National Convention as a delegate when she is needed to fill that important role. She is a true "veteran" of Psi lota Xi procedures, interests, and Convention business meetings. She gives her time and talents generously, as she has done, for her 62 years as our chapter's example of "sisterhood," loyalty, and dedication to us.

Her Psi Ote examples of promoting cheer and enriching lives is through serving as chairman of our local convalescent center project. This involves organizing and playing domino games with residents and organizing and delivering our chapter Christmas philanthropy to the center. She gathers information about needed gifts for each resident and then involves each member to supply the appropriate gifts with suggestions for both men and women residents. She always provides Christmas cards and prompts us to sign and send messages to our Honorary Retired members.

Her Psi Ote values of service and philanthropy extend to her faith. She serves her Catholic Parish by delivering Communion to Shut-ins, every

weekend. She volunteers as a tutor at the parish school for students in Pre-K to grade 8. She serves on the finance council and volunteers at funeral dinners, at meals for migrant families, and other jobs as needed. We nominate her with thankful hearts for her service and loyalty."

It is my honor to introduce the 2024 Psi Ote of the Year from the Beta Zeta chapter in Summitville, IN, Patricia "Pat "Brunt!

Congratulations on this well-deserved honor Pat!

#### **PSI OTE OF THE YEAR**

1984	Bonnie Spraker
1985	
1986	Pauline Riner
1987	Marilyn Siderwicz
1988	Melody Hunt
1989	Sally (Ragsdale) Burch
1990	Linda Goede
1991	Mary Jane Parrish
1992	,
1993	Bonita Hunt
1994	Leanna Potts
1995	
1996	Keneen Winget
1997	Helen Fox Babette Hiles
1998 1999	
2000	Alice Rogers Linda Bauer
2000	Elizabeth Backe
	Rose Marie Anderson
2002	Lynn Ancich
2004	Barb Barhydt
2005	-
2006	Leslie Moulton
2007	Karen Graverson
2008	Jennifer Baltus
2009	Nondus Christman
2010	Pam Gunterman
2011	Jessica Pears
2012	Maggie Hormel
2013	Marilyn Cleary
2014	Marla Mitrione
2015	Lorna Tribby
2016	Marty Krug
2017	Jill Robbins
2018	Judy Moulton
2019	Doreen Graves
2020 2021	Elaine Leahigh Heather Sheline
	Rita Seelow
2022	Carolyn Coffin Erin Schroering
2023	Patricia "Pat" Brunt
_02-	. acrosa i ac biant

	Zeta Theta
	Epsilon
	Beta Epsilon
	Eta Chi
	Zeta Beta
h	Gamma lota
	Eta Gamma
	Gamma Kapp
	Theta Kappa
	Beta Xi
	Gamma lota
	Theta Mu
	Eta Delta
	Alpha Omega
	Eta Psi
	Zeta Xi
	Theta Beta
	Gamma Xi
l	lota Omicron
	Delta Gamma
	Eta Xi
	Epsilon
	Eta lota
	Theta Delta
	Zeta Nu
	Phi
	Theta Delta
	Zeta Theta
	Beta Pi
	Alpha
	Alpha Iota
	lota Rho
	lota Tau
	lota Sigma
	Eta lota
	Alpha Theta
	Alpha Omega
	Theta Kappa
	Theta Psi
	Upsilon
	lota Lambda
	Beta Zeta
_	

Niles, MI Columbus, IN Mentone, IN Martinsville, IN Anderson, IN Shoals, IN Valparaiso, IN a Brook, IN Edon, OH Crown Point, IN Shoals, IN Battle Creek, MI Carmel, IN North Vernon, IN Champaign, IL Madison, IN Paoli, IN Crawfordsville, IN Campbellsburg, IN Fort Wayne, IN Auburn, IN Columbus, IN Parker City, IN Bremen, IN Westport, IN Huntington, IN Bremen, IN Niles, MI Cambridge City, IN Muncie, IN Richmond, IN Odon, IN Indianapolis, IN St. Joseph, IL Parker City, IN Charlestown, IN North Vernon, IN Edon, OH Bethany, IL Greenfield, IN Ferdinand, IN Summitville, IN



## Project Highlights

As I looked back through my year as Project Chair, I was reminded of the activities that I was honored to attend on behalf of Psi lota Xi and the many connections that I have made with project representatives and Psi Ote sisters.

The year started off quickly. August was a busy month. Mo Dix, Sandie Carlson, and I met with Ellyn McCall, Chief Executive Officer of Hear Indiana, and toured the Hear Indiana offices. The resources and services they provide are tremendous! While there Sandie and Mo presented Ellyn with the \$15,500 donation from 2022-2023 for the Long-Term Project.

I was honored to attend the Hoosier Salon's 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition Preview Gala at the Indiana State Museum. It was a great event showcasing 144 pieces of artwork by Indiana artists. Mo Dix, Taffy Day, Sandie Carlson, and I were excited to find the painting by C.W. Mundy, titled "Bass Rocks", that received 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the exhibit and was awarded from our National Project Fund.

Also, in August I started working on the Elsie I. Sweeney Symphony program that generously provides free tickets to students from the following orchestras: Evansville Philharmonic, South Bend Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra Indiana, and the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra.

In September several Psi Ote sisters and I attended the "Afternoon Tea at the Governor's Residence" hosted by the Hoosier Art Salon. It was a

beautiful afternoon in the gardens at the Governor's residence. During the event Psi lota Xi's long-standing support of the Hoosier Art Salon was recognized by the Hoosier Art Salon President, Mike Quinn.

In November, National Project proposals were received and reviewed. The Screening Committee met via Zoom in January to review and decide on the projects to propose to the membership. I want to thank Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, Mickie Hansen, Taffy Day, Sandie Carlson, Beth Keeney, Connie Frederick, and Lorna Tribby for serving on the committee.

Throughout the year I have received donations to the Psi Iota Xi and Hear Indiana Scholarship Long-Term Project. I am so grateful to the individuals and chapters that have contributed. We passed the half-way mark, which is so exciting!

This year has been enlightening for me and I continue to be inspired by the generosity of my Psi Ote sisters. May

we continue to enrich the lives of those about us!

Respectfully submitted,

Mona Knight National Project Chair Iota Theta, Armstrong, IL





Mona Knight
NATIONAL PROJECT CHAIR
Iota Theta - Armstrong, IL



Mona Knight, Taffy Day, Mo Dix, and Sandie Carlson attended the Hoosier Salon's 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition Preview Gala at the Indiana State Museum.

## National Long Term Project

#### **LONG TERM PROJECT DONATIONS FOR 2023-2024**

Theta Kappa

Theta Theta

Theta Zeta

Zeta Beta

Zeta Mu

Zeta Tau

Zeta Xi

Zeta Theta

Zeta Gamma

Zeta

**Chapter Donations** Past National Presidents Alpha Muncie, IN Alpha Chi Hagerstown, IN Alpha Omicron Vincennes, IN Washington, IN Alpha Psi Beta Gamma Peru, IN Beta Lambda Bedford, IN Beta Tau Frankfort, IN Chi Brookston, IN Eta Chi Martinsville, IN Eta Gamma Valparaiso, IN Eta Lambda Beech Grove, IN Eta Mu Rochester, IN Eta Omicron Kalamazoo, MI Gamma Alpha Portland, IN Gamma Beta Remington, IN Gamma Eta Knightstown, IN Gamma Nu Brownsburg, IN South Bend, IN Gamma Sigma Gamma Tau Marion, IN Crawfordsville, IN Gamma Xi **Iota Theta** Armstrong, IL Winamac, IN Iota Xi Omega Lebanon, IN

Edon, OH

Fort Wayne, IN

Fort Recovery, OH

Bloomington, IN

Anderson, IN

Jasper, IN

Milroy, IN

Niles, MI Madison, IN

Fort Branch, IN

#### **Individual Donations**

Mo Dix In Honor of Andrea Niedenthal, Past National President Mo Dix In Honor of Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, National President Valerie Helms-Mejia In Honor of Mo Dix, National President In Honor of Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, National President Sandie Carlson Mo Dix In Honor of National Council Mo Dix In Memory of Kenny & Selwyn Robinson & Lawrence & Lucille Dix Jane Patton In Memory of Sam & Phyllis DeMoss Mo Dix In Honor of National Council Jane Patton In Honor of Kathy Kahre Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery In Memory of Past National President, Kathy Miller and Beta Delta member, Betty Miller **National Council Donations** Kitty Fund In Honor of Mo Dix, Past National President Kitty Fund

In Honor of Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, National President Kitty Fund In Memory of Beth Vipond's Mother Happy Bucks **Summer Council Meeting** Happy Bucks Winter Council Meeting **Happy Bucks** Spring Council Meeting







At the 2024 National Convention, Ellyn McCall of Hear Indiana was presented a \$16,500 donation from 2023-2024 for the Long-Term Project. The funds will go towards Hear Indiana scholarship opportunities for speech-language pathology or doctor of audiology graduate students pursuing the study of Listening and Spoken Language.

Pictured from left to right is Mona Knight, National Project Chair, Ellyn McCall, Hear Indiana CEO, and Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, National President.

## Past National Presidents



Seated (L to R): Pat Kugler 2009, Eta Gamma, Valparaiso, IN; Anita Canaday, 1991, Zeta Beta, Anderson, IN; Barbara Perkins, 1984, Alpha Psi, Washington, IN; Bette Yeager, 1992, Gamma Nu, Brownsburg, IN; Diana Lamb, 2008, Omega, Lebanon, IN; Ramona Simpson, 2000, Iota Theta, Armstrong, IL.

Standing (L to R): Kim Crawley, 2012, Sigma, Greensburg, IN; Marcia Mohre, 2013, Theta Kappa, Edon, OH; Pat Menge, 2019, Pi, Fort Wayne, IN; Susie Lewis, 2015, Alpha Chi, Hagerstown, IN; Beth Keeney, 2017, Beta Tau, Frankfort, IN; Brenda Bonner, 2016, Beta Alpha, Flora, IN; Cathy Etzler, 2014, Theta Zeta, Fort Recovery, OH; Sara Overway, 2004, Beta Alpha, Flora, IN; Maureen "Mo" Dix, 2022, Zeta Gamma, Fort Branch, IN.

			V	N	
Year	Name	Chapter	Year	Name	Chapter
† 1960	Donna Knochel (Mrs. Arthur)	Gamma Beta	1993	Sharon Creager (Mrs. Jerry)	lota
† 1961	Genevieve Miles (Mrs. William)	Beta Kappa	1994	Tula Tucker (Mrs. Michael)	Theta Delta
† 1962	Vi Dawn (Mrs. William P.)	Delta Epsilon	† 1995	Marjorie Isley (Mrs. Marvin)	Alpha Kappa
† 1963	Kathryn Falk (Mrs. William E. Sr.)	Beta Omega	1996	Renata Rae Harris (Mrs. Stephen)	Beta Tau
† 1964	Rose S Beatty (Mrs.)	Beta Tau	1997	Carolyn Logsdon (Mrs. Thomas)	Zeta Tau
† 1965	Ven Endsley (Mrs. Robert)	Phi	1998	Barbara Mitchel (Mrs. David)	Eta Delta
† 1966	Janice Scherer (Mrs. Edwin)	Alpha Beta	1999	Sandy Clevenger (Mrs. Merrill)	Delta Epsilon
† 1967	Martha Van Ness (Mrs. William C.)	Beta Zeta	2000	Ramona Simpson (Mrs. Richard)	lota Theta
† 1968	Sue Morris (Mrs. William A.)	Beta lota	2001	Gwendolyn Myers (Mrs. Ronald)	Alpha Xi
† 1969	Jule Warner (Mrs. Francis)	Zeta	2002	Lydia Corbett (Mrs. Mitch)	Gamma Kappa
† 1970	Lillian Schuyler (Mrs. Arthur)	Beta Nu	† 2003	Kathy Miller	Beta Delta
† 1971	Ruth Ann Trubitt (Mrs. Hillard)	Alpha Tau	2004	Sara (Hoffman) Overway	Beta Alpha
† 1972	Janet Cook (Mrs. Gordon)	Gamma Sigma	2005	Anna Jo McKaig (Mrs. Tom)	Beta Gamma
† 1973	Opal Clark (Mrs. Leonard)	Beta Lambda	2006	Sue Simpson (Mrs. Mark)	Eta Xi
† 1974	Mable Alice Robertson (Mrs. Fred)	Delta Epsilon	2007	Debbie Stemle (Mrs. Pat)	Zeta Mu
† 1975	Gladys Gardner (Mrs. Don)	Gamma Alpha	2008	Diana Lamb (Mrs. Robert)	Omega
† 1976	Clarice Shively (Mrs. J. Frank)	Theta	2009	Pat Kugler (Mrs. Dale)	Eta Gamma
† 1977	Lou Rohlfing (Mrs. John)	Epsilon	2010	Deanna Howard (Mrs. John)	Alpha Omega
† 1978	Peg Burns (Mrs. Ralph)	Eta Gamma	2011	Janice Stagg (Mrs. Jeff)	. Iota Tau
† 1979	Kay Wilson (Mrs. Grover)	Beta Pi	2012	Kim Crawley (Mrs. Mike)	Sigma
† 1980	Delores Heckerson (Mrs. Everett)	Theta Psi	2013	Marcia Mohre (Mrs. David)	Theta Kappa
† 1981	Doris Donnelly Larsen (Mrs. Harold)	Gamma Xi	2014	Cathy Etzler (Mrs. Chuck)	Theta Zeta
† 1982	Mary Cave Blum (Mrs. William)	Eta Psi	2015	Susie Lewis	Alpha Chi
1983	Karen Isbell Schalburg (Mrs. Bart)	Eta Phi	2016	Brenda Bonner (Mrs. Rob)	Beta Alpha
1984	Barbara Perkins (Mrs. Gene)	Alpha Psi	2017	Beth Keeney (Mrs. Steve)	Beta Tau
† 1985	Janet Simpson (Mrs. Robert)	Zeta lota	2018	Connie McDaniel (Mrs. Mark)	Beta Lambda
† 1986	Mary Helen Foster (Mrs. Glenn)	Delta Beta	2019	Patricia Menge (Mrs. David)	Pi
1987	Lesley Bookout (Mrs. Mel)	Zeta Theta	2020	Sandy Johnson (Mrs. Dave)	Zeta lota
1988	Sharon White (Mrs. Wayne)	Delta Zeta	2021	Andrea Niedenthal (Mrs. Tim)	Zeta Tau
† 1989	Margie Judge (Mrs. Dick)	Epsilon	2022	Maureen "Mo" Dix (Mrs. Herb)	Zeta Gamma
† 1990	Shirley Harding (Mrs. Lary)	Gamma lota	2023	Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery (Mrs. Greg)	Theta Theta
1991	Anita Canaday (Mrs. Tony)	Zeta Beta	2020		mota mota

Gamm Nu

† Deceased as of September 2024

1992

Bette Yeager (Mrs. Willis)

## 2023-2024 Philanthropic Contributions

Overall Donations by All Districts

Total Spent for Music \$ 112,145.57

Total Spent for Art \$ 130,921.16

Total Spent for All Cultural \$ 243,066.73



Total Spent for Speech & Hearing \$ 187,899.55

Total Spent for Literature/Literacy \$ 128,114.60

Total Spent for "Other" \$ 331,255.69



Several Past National Presidents gathered for dinner prior to the 2024 National Convention.

Seated (L to R): Sue Simpson, 2006, Eta Xi, Auborn, IN; Pat Menge, 2019, Pi, Fort Wayne, IN; Ramona Simpson, 2000, Iota Theta, Armstrong, IL; Kim Crawley, 2012, Sigma, Greensburg, IN; Diana Lamb, 2008, Omega, Lebanon, IN; Maureen "Mo" Dix, 2022, Zeta Gamma, Fort Branch, IN.

Standing (L to R): Marcia Mohre, 2013, Theta Kappa, Edon, OH; Beth Keeney, 2017, Beta Tau, Frankfort, IN; Cathy Etzler, 2014, Theta Zeta, Fort Recovery, OH; Sandy Johnson, 2020, Zeta Iota, Louisville, KY; Susie Lewis, 2015, Alpha Chi, Hagerstown, IN; Connie McDaniel, 2018, Beta Lambda, Bedford, IN; Brenda Bonner, 2016, Beta Alpha, Flora, IN.

### Indiana Association

It is hard to believe that this journey of sisterhood for me started back in 2006. I was a recently divorced mother of two beautiful girls. I was down on my luck and was asked by Fraustina Zimmerman from the Gamma Delta chapter of Attica to come to a meeting to check out what Psi Iota Xi is all about. From that point on, I was hooked. I attended every State Meeting and National Convention that I could, thoroughly enjoying being a part of something bigger. When the opportunity finally came to join the State Board, you better believe that I jumped on it. By this time, I had transferred to the Gamma Xi chapter of Crawfordsville, and they were huge supporters of this journey. I could not have done it without them.

April 13, 2024, will be a day I remember for a long time. It was truly extraordinary to see what the combined collective of sisters from different areas of the state could do when brought together.

In our journey through life, we encounter countless challenges, opportunities, and experiences. Each one shapes us, molds us, and adds depth to our story. Sometimes, it may seem like our role is insignificant, like we're just a tiny fragment in the grand scheme of things. But nothing could be further from the truth. Every interaction you have, every decision you make, every contribution you offer - it all matters. You bring something valuable to the table, something that no one else can replicate. Your unique perspective, your talents, your kindness, - they are all pieces of the puzzle that make our world a richer, more vibrant place.

Think about it – without your presence, without your influence, the puzzle would be incomplete. It's the diversity of pieces, the coming together of different

shapes and colors, that makes the picture whole. And you, my sisters, are an integral part of that picture. So, the next time that you doubt your significance, remember this: you are not just a bystander in the puzzle of life; you are a vital piece, without which the picture would be incomplete. Embrace your role, cherish your uniqueness, and know that you are making a difference, one piece at a time.

Together, we are part of something truly special – a community dedicated to enriching lives through the power of supporting music, art, literature, speech, and hearing.

When I reflect on the journey of our organization, I'm reminded of a beautiful mosaic where each piece represents the unique contributions of our members, volunteers, donors, and communities. It is this collective effort that enables us to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

But our work is far from over. As we look to the future, we recognize that there are still many challenges to overcome and many lives to touch. Together, we will continue to innovate, collaborate, and advocate for positive changes. Together, we will continue to piece the puzzle together.

Thank you for being part of the incredible journey and thank you for being an invaluable part of my puzzle, and for the countless ways you enrich the lives of those around you. Let us continue to make a difference, one piece at a time.

Pax Vobiscum,

Jennifer Hunter Indiana State Advisor Gamma Xi, Crawfordsville



Victoria (Tori) Harrell Indiana Association President Gamma Tau, Marion, IN

#### INDIANA 2024-2025 State Officers

President	Tori Harrell
Vice President	Kim Wickizer
Secretary	Sandra Shaffer
Treasurer	Cindy Osmon
Project Chair	Marty Krug
Advisor	Jennifer Hunter



## Kentucky Association

#### KENTUCKY 2024-2025 State Officers

**Ashley Darnell** 

Kentucky Association President

Iota Chi, LaGrange, KY

President......Ashley Darnell Secretary....Karen Scrogham Treasurer....Tania Miles Advisor.....Sandra Johnson, PNP

#### 2024 Kentucky State Association Spring Meeting

The members of the Kentucky State Association met at Kids Haven by Sandy in LaGrange, KY for the 2024 KSA Spring Meeting on Saturday, March 9th. The weather outside was dull and dreary but the energy inside Kids Haven was light and fun as attendees celebrated "Blooming with Our Sisters Since 1897".

Ashley Darnell, KSA President, kicked off the annual event by welcoming everyone and introducing National Council members and Past National Presidents in attendance. Mary Emma Johnson, lota Chi, LaGrange, Donna Carrithers, Theta Nu, Lexington, and Tania Miles, Zeta Iota, Louisville, gave reports on their respective chapters. Approval of meeting minutes and the treasurer's report as well as reminding everyone of the upcoming Indiana Association meeting and National Convention occurred during the morning session.

The afternoon session began with guest speaker, Laura Tapp, Executive Director of Crossroads Pregnancy Resource Center, who spoke about some of her experiences working in the pregnancy resource field. She shared that her organization supports not only the expecting mother but also the father and the entire family unit. Her stories touched the hearts of the entire room.

More official business was completed in the afternoon including the presentation and discussion of two proposed state projects. The afternoon ended with the basket raffle drawing.

Written by Jane Patton, National Editor









Zeta Iota, Louisville, KY



Theta Nu. Lexington, KY



Iota Chi. LaGrange, KY

## 2023-2024 National Awards

## Top Awards in Greatest Per Capita Donations

#### Music



NE – Alpha Eta Bluffton, IN \$439.09 Per Capita

Dawn Allison, Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, Jennifer Bultemeir

#### Largest Amount Given Per Capita For All Music Projects

NE – Alpha Eta, Bluffton NW – Gamma Beta, Remington EC – Zeta Beta, Anderson WC – Gamma Nu, Brownsburg SE – Beta Sigma, Austin SW – Beta Beta, Sullivan

#### **Speech and Hearing**



SE - Iota Rushville, IN \$846.15 Per Capita

Natalie Anderson, Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, Jennifer Warner

#### Largest Amount Given Per Capita to Speech and Hearing

NE – Alpha Delta, Decatur NW – Chi, Brookston EC – Gamma Alpha, Portland WC – Gamma Xi, Crawfordsville SE – Iota, Rushville SW – Alpha Omicron, Vincennes

#### **Philanthropic**



NW - Beta Alpha Flora, IN \$2,525.29 Per Capita

Lolita McAfee, Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, Pamela Flora

#### Largest Amount Given Per Capita to All Philanthropic Projects

NE – Pi, Fort Wayne NW – Beta Alpha, Flora EC – Alpha Phi, Fortville WC – Gamma Xi, Crawfordsville SE – Iota, Rushville SW – Alpha Omicron, Vincennes

#### **Fine Arts**



NW - Beta Alpha Flora, IN \$700.00 Per Capita

Lolita McAfee, Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, Pamela Flora

#### **Largest Amount Given Per Capita For Fine Arts Projects**

NE – Alpha Eta, Bluffton NW – Beta Alpha, Flora EC – Zeta Beta, Anderson WC – Eta Delta, Carmel SE – Alpha Omega, North Vernon SW – Alpha Omicron, Vincennes

#### Literature/Literacy



NW - Beta Alpha Flora, IN \$718.87 Per Capita

Lolita McAfee, Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, Pamela Flora

#### **Largest Amount Per Capita to Literature/Literacy**

NE – Phi, Huntington NW – Beta Alpha, Flora EC – Alpha Phi, Fortville WC – Gamma Nu, Brownsburg SE – Epsilon, Columbus SW – Zeta Mu, Jasper

#### **Community Outreach**



NE - Pi Fort Wayne, IN \$1,935.69 Per Capita

Linda Walls, Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, Katrina Kay

#### Largest Amount Given Per Capita to All Other Projects-Community Outreach

NE – Pi, Fort Wayne NW – Beta Alpha, Flora EC – Beta Zeta, Summitville WC – Beta Tau, Frankfort SE –Alpha Omega, North Vernon SW – Zeta, Bloomington

## 2023-2024 National Awards

Top Awards in Largest Amount Given

#### **Largest Amount Given to a Single Project**



NE – Pi, Fort Wayne NW – Beta Alpha, Flora EC – Alpha, Muncie WC – Gamma Xi, Crawfordsville SE – Iota, Rushville SW – Zeta Mu, Jasper NE - Pi Fort Wayne, IN \$44,260.00

Linda Walls, Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, Katrina Kay

## **Largest Amount Given to All Literature/Literacy Projects**



NW - Beta Alpha, Flora, IN \$14,377.49

Lolita McAfee, Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, Pamela Flora

#### **Largest Amount Given to Literature/Literacy Projects**

NE – Phi, Huntington NW – Beta Alpha, Flora EC – Alpha Phi, Fortville WC – Beta Tau, Frankfort SE – Epsilon, Columbus SW – Zeta Mu, Jasper

## Largest Amount Given to All Cultural Projects



SW - Zeta, Bloomington, IN \$19,150.00

Carie Johann, Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, Phyllis Schwitzer

#### **Largest Amount Given Overall to Cultural Projects**

NE – Beta Gamma, Peru NW – Beta Alpha, Flora EC – Alpha Phi, Fortville WC – Eta Delta, Carmel SE – Epsilon, Columbus SW – Zeta, Bloomington

## 2023-2024 National Awards

Psi Iota Xi National Literature/Literacy Awards

The National Literature/Literacy Award, which is voted on annually, allows one chapter to be drawn from each region to receive \$1,000 to use in their community for a literature/literacy project. The chapter representatives from the winning chapters are shown below.



(L to R) Lynn Arthur, Patty Boeglin, Jennette Sumwalt, Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, Sarah Lasker, Amanda Curry, Jennifer Scalf.

#### **Northern Region**

Phi, Huntington, IN

Northeast District

Amanda Curry & Jennifer Scalf

#### **Central Region**

Beta Iota, Farmland, IN
East Central District
Jennette Sumwalt & Sara Laskar

#### Southern Region

Zeta Mu, Jasper, IN Southwest District Lynn Arthur & Patty Boeglin

#### **Update on the 2023 Winners**

#### **Northern Region:**

**NW** - **Chi, Brookston, IN** - Funds were used to help purchase additional books for grades 1- 6 Accelerated Reader Program at Frontier Elementary School.

#### **Central Region:**

**lota Theta, Armstrong, IL** - **WC** - Funds were donated to the Books from Brek organization to collect, process, and distribute quality new and gently used children's books to at-risk infants, toddlers, and school-age children throughout the Champaign/Urbana area. Books are gifted to the Mother Goose on the Loose program at the library and also to Crisis Nursery.

#### **Southern Region:**

**lota Chi, LaGrange, KY** - **SE** - Funds were used to supply books for a book vending machine at the LaGrange Elementary School.

I have enjoyed being your National Conductress this year! After the convention last year, I was made one of the administrators of our National Psi lota Xi Facebook page. I have had so much fun reading and posting about all of your wonderful philanthropic projects and sisterhood activities! I also appreciate the excuse this gives me to be on Facebook!

Another responsibility of the National Conductress is keeping the membership information in our database up to date. The National Council can access this database to get the most current membership information.

One of the bigger projects for the Conductress is chairing the Psi Ote of the Year (POOTY) committee. I never cease to be amazed by the wonderful women we have in our sorority! This year 21 chapters nominated one of their sisters for the Psi Ote of the Year award. I am so grateful for the dedicated committee who went over all these nominations with a fine-tooth comb to make sure we chose the best candidate to be our 2024 POOTY award winner. Everyone on the committee was well prepared when we met on our Zoom POOTY meeting on May 14th to discuss and tackle the difficult task of determining a winner. All of the nominees were outstanding!



Alpha - Muncie, IN

The hardworking members of 2023-2024 POOTY committee were Susie Lewis (Past National President), Melissa Cooper (West Central District Officer), Lauren Huyvaert (Northeast District Officer), Jane Patton (Southwest District Officer), and Terri Resler (National Editor).

As the chair of this committee, I enjoyed gathering all the information and facilitating the process. So far, the best part has been letting the winning chapter know that their sister is the National Psi Ote of the Year and planning with them for our big reveal at convention. I am sure getting to announce the winner at convention will be even better!

I have appreciated the opportunity to serve our sorority in this position this year!

Loyally, Valerie Helms-Mejia, National Conductress Alpha, Muncie, IN



Terri Resler **NATIONAL EDITOR** Alpha Psi - Washington, IN

I can't believe we have finished another year. As we get ready to forge together at National Convention, I hope I have shown my own friendship, loyalty and love to each of you this year.

I have enjoyed being National Editor. It was a job I had no desire or thought I had any talent to do. I have appreciated the opportunity to be proven wrong on that. I continue to learn so much about working on the newsletter and doing the Helicon. I apologize for mistakes and typos, but it shows me that you all are reading what is put out there.

The website is still a work in progress. It has been great working with the webmaster. She has been so helpful and very eager to work with us to bring it up to date and interesting to view. Suggestions are still appreciated; we want to make it valuable too.

I have made so many more friendships as your Editor. My love for sorority is stronger than ever. I will continue to give my loyalty, 100% to Psi Iota Xi.

Let's keep forging together in the name of Psi Iota Xi.

Respectfully submitted, Terri Resler, National Editor Alpha Psi, Washington, IN

## Button 🧶 Awards



(L to R) Abby Dyer, NEDO Lauren Huyvaert, Morgan Hicks

#### Alpha Delta, Decatur, IN

This chapter made a large donation to a new program that helps to promote a passion for music in youth. This program provides three free months of music lessons as well as a take home instrument. This can have a profound impact on youth in the community by allowing them to foster passion for music.



(L to R) Megan McGee, NWDO Pam Gunterman, Katie Tetzolff

#### Beta XI, Crown Point, IN

This chapter's contribution aligns with Psi lota Xi's fundamental goal of helping those who struggle to communicate effectively and will positively impact families with nonverbal children. These sisters collaborated with Emberly's Smiles to place communication boards in local parks and schools in their community.

WEST CENTRAL

(L to R) Tamara Hemmerlein, WCDO Missy Cooper, Jennifer Hunter

#### Gamma Xi, Crawfordsville, IN

This chapter sponsored four books for trail tales over the last year. This is a program that the Crawfordsville Library and Friends of the Library started in 2016. In 2024, twenty new storyboards were installed along the Sugar Creek Trail. Local residents use the trail for walking, biking, and running. The storyboards feature 8 to 12 different trail tales for families to enjoy while using the trail. The books are changed every 4 to 6 weeks.

Highlighting significant contributions this year to one of our areas: art, music, speech/hearing, literature.

# EAST CENTRAL

(L to R) Michelle Harry, ECDO Beth Vipond, Connie Goen

#### Eta Iota, Parker City

This chapter purchased 135 Interpretive Boards for First Responders, then delivered them to every Fire, Police, EMS and First Responder in Randolph County, along with training DVDs. These boards are useful in emergencies where patients or victims have limited communication abilities due to stroke, autism, speech challenges or other causes. Their \$453 investment has yielded a valuable tool for use across their entire community.



(L to R) Deidre Low, SEDO Carol Good, Katie Tetzolff

#### Upsilon, Greenfield, IN

This chapter funded the purchase of signs for playgrounds at local elementary schools to aid in communication for students who are not able communicate verbally. These signs have many actions and requests that can be pointed to aiding in communication with others. Some examples include "bathroom", "run", "help", "music" and "hurt". The signs have had a big impact for students who can communicate with their teachers and other students while on the playground.



(L to R) Carie Johann, SWDO Jane Patton, Phyllis Schwitzer

#### Zeta, Bloomington, IN

This chapter answered the need of the many low-income families in their community by donating \$5,000 to a birth center and postpartum house to allow the purchase of a hearing screening machine to test newborn hearing before they leave the birth center. The chapter recognized how important detection and intervention is for newborns with hearing issues. This birth center provides services to all families regardless of their ability to pay.

## Button 🧶 Awards



(L to R) Dawn Allison, NEDO Lauren Huyvaert, Jennifer Bultemeir

#### Alpha Eta, Bluffton, IN

This chapter recognizes the financial burden felt by teachers in the Art, Music and Reading areas. Many times, teachers are using their personal funds to supply their classroom with supplies that are needed for students to succeed. This chapter only has 11 members! They may be small, but they are mighty. They were able to donate \$2000 to school librarians, \$1800 to Elementary Music teachers, and \$2700 to school Art teachers in their community.



(L to R) Rachel Benirschle, ECDO Beth Vipond, Sarah Link

#### Gamma Alpha, Portland, IN

In smaller communities, local theatre does not happen without significant money and time commitment from supporters and sponsors. This chapter served as the main sponsor for their local theatre production, "Christmas Story", providing money from their project fund and volunteer hours to make it a success.



(L to R) Monette Cochran, NWDO Pam Gunterman, Andi Waibel

#### Gamma Beta, Remington, IN

This chapter encourages the growth of music in their community by helping to purchase music recorders for all third-grade students. For most of these children, the recorder is the first instrument they learn to play and hopefully ignites a love of music throughout their academic career.

I nspiring the growth of art, music, or literature in your community this year.



(L to R) Rachel Barmantje, SEDO Carol Good, Susan Scalf

#### Iota Chi, LaGrange, KY

This chapter helped a local elementary school teacher purchase musical instruments for her music class. Her school would not approve the funds to purchase small musical instruments to enhance her teaching. Since music is a project that Psi lota Xi encourages, this chapter donated a substantial amount to this teacher to use this year and next to fund instruments for her classroom. These students now can learn to play instruments and hopefully find special interest in developing musical skills.



(L to R) Samantha Kauffman, WCDO Missy Cooper, Marie Shaffer

#### Beta Tau, Frankfort, IN

This chapter is passionate about helping and promoting the endeavors of the youth in their community. They host an annual art show at the public library to display and honor young artists in the community. This year they had four school districts participate and more than 200 entries from Jr. High and High School students. The event started with a reception where the chapter sisters, artists and their families gathered to celebrate and honor the winners. This event allows these artists to showcase their work and be celebrated.



(L to R) Rachel Tribby, SWDO Jane Patton, Cindy Osmon

#### Iota Rho, Odon, IN

This chapter organized the art, craft, gardening, baking, and floral projects in exhibition hall during community's annual Old Settlers Festival. This small but mighty chapter is involved in every aspect of the event from check-in and setting up projects, to manning the building and finding judges. This annual event is open to children and adults alike and gives all the opportunity to display their creations and compete for a blue ribbon. This fun community wide event inspires artists of all ages to participate and welcomes all to come and enjoy.



















Girl Scout Troops 00447 & 53014



**Fort Wayne Mayor Sharon Tucker** 



**Keynote Speaker Barb Richards** 

































# Convention Invitations

### ~COMCO

#### **CONVENTION 2025**

Indianapolis, Indiana Sheraton Indianapolis Hotel at Keystone Crossing Hosted by Upsilon, Greenfield, Indiana



Join the ladies of Upsilon, Greenfield, for Convention 2025

The Convention theme is "Share the Past, Experience Our Future"

June 27-29, 2025



~C.96\0C.90

Convention 2026
Indianapolis, Indiana
The 2026 Psi Iota Xi National
Convention will be hosted by
Omega Lebanon, Indiana.

Convention 2027

The 2027 Psi Iota Xi National Convention will be hosted by Theta Kappa, Edon, Ohio.



### ORTHEAST DISTRICT

Total Community Outreach	\$114,038.31
Total Speech and Hearing	\$ 27,341.51
Total Music	
Total Fine Arts	\$ 22,135.00
Total Literature/Literacy	\$ 30,257.39

15 Chapters

286 Members

#### **NORTHEAST DISTRICT CHAPTERS:** Pi, Fort Wayne, IN ...... 1919 Rho, Angola, IN ...... 1916 Alpha Delta, Decatur, IN ...... 1922 **Alpha Eta, Bluffton, IN ...... 1923** Alpha Rho, Garrett, IN ...... 1926 Beta Gamma, Peru, IN ...... 1929 Beta Epsilon, Mentone, IN .......... 1929 Beta Rho, Goshen, IN ..... 1935 Gamma Zeta, Ossian, IN ...... 1945 Eta Zeta, Nappanee, IN......1967-2024 Eta Omicron, Kalamazoo, MI....... 1969 Theta Theta, Fort Wayne, IN ....... 1971 Theta Kappa, Edon, OH...... 1972 Theta Tau, Midland, MI...... 1974

Serving as your Northeast District Officer this past year has been an honor. I have enjoyed getting to know those of you I met this year and look forward to continuing to grow these relationships in the future. I was privileged to visit Alpha Delta, Decatur, IN; Rho, Angola, IN; and Phi, Huntington, IN chapters this year.

The National Convention hosted by the Northeast chapter of Theta Theta, Fort Wayne, Indiana, was terrific. I was blessed to attend my first convention as a National Officer in the Northeast District.

The Northeast district donated over \$200,000 to the areas Psi lota Xi serves and many other deserving organizations. I



Lauren Huyvaert NORTHEAST DISTRICT OFFICER Gamma Sigma, South Bend, IN

am proud to have served as your Northeast District Officer and look forward to what the Northeast District can do in the future.

Loyally,

Lauren Huyvaert Northeast District Officer Gamma Sigma, South Bend, IN

#### PΙ

Fort Wayne, Indiana 27 Members Second and Fourth Mondays August 9, 1919

Slate of Officers: Janet Sagstetter, President; Linda Walls, Vice President; Lane Ross/Mary Diskey, Treasurer; Elise Berghoff, Corresponding & Recording Secretary; Linda Walls, Conductress.

**Social Activities:** In December, we had our Christmas party at the home of Elise Berghoff. After a delicious meal prepared by Elise, her mother and husband, we played a rousing game of team Christmas and Winter Trivia.

In March, we had our annual "pizza party" business meeting at the home of Christy Blake. Christy prepared the main course and we filled out the meal with salads and desserts (and wine).

In May, we had our annual picnic/potluck at Kyle Dever's home. Kyle went to alumni status after last year but still has strong ties to Pi and opened her home regardless of her membership status. That's true sisterhood. We furnished appetizers and desserts, and our scholarship winners provided the entertainment. After dinner and entertainment, Pat Menge the incoming Conductress installed our 2024-2025 officers.

Charitable Activities and Fundraisers: In the early fall, we had our garage sale. Most of the set up was completed at a business meeting at the beginning of the week and then over the next day and a half, items continued to come in for the sale. We made approximately \$1,200 profit on this fundraiser.

As the holidays approached, we sold greenery to deck the halls and inspire the holiday feelings in friends and loved ones near and far.

In April, we had our major fundraising event – Les Arts des l'Tables (aka Arts of the Table). Decorators and businesses from all over the area sponsor and



Pi, Fort Wayne, IN, host the Les Arts des L'Table fundraising event.

decorate tables for a preview party and luncheon for the benefit of The Carriage House. The tablescapes are amazing and wildly beautiful to see. The creativity of the decorators is unmatched. This year we were able to present a check to The Carriage House in support of their affordable housing initiative in the amount of \$44,260 from our event. Below is a picture of the check presentation by the committee.

#### **RHO**

Angola, Indiana 30 Members First Monday June 16, 1916

State of Officers: Julie Clary, President; Sarah Clary, Vice President; Melissa Springar, Corresponding Secretary; Marilyn Doerr, Recording Secretary; Laura Hoard, Co-Recording Secretary; Lynn Chandler, Treasurer; Teri Emberton, Co-Treasurer; Rosie Brandt, Conductress; Jenny Sanborn, Advisor.

Social Activities: In September we welcomed back members with a social in the home of one of our members. In November we collected gifts and toys for the local police department and police dog, as they gave a demonstration and presentation on what they do each day. In December we had a social and Christmas party with games and gift exchange. In February we invited the Cameron Community Hospital Speech and Hearing department to come speak to us about their programs. We surprised one of our members with many gifts for her and her doggie as she has given so much to our chapter over the years. In March we collected snacks and gift cards to be given to the local Fire Department and Rescue squads for all their hard work and dedication. We also celebrated St. Patty's Day with a potato bar and games at our social/meeting. In April we invited several students who participated in the Indiana Ambassadors of Music tour to Europe to come speak to us and share their pictures and experiences with us. We donated money to each of the eight students last year to attend this trip. They performed in a band and choir in England, France, Switzerland, Germany and Austria. It was fantastic to see how this trip has changed these kids' perspectives on other cultures and life outside the United States. We hope to continue to support future students on this trip. In May we will install new officers and in June we will have our Memorial Service and Initiation Ceremony.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: In October the Rho chapter's biggest fundraiser is our Designer Purse Bingo Event. This was our second year holding this event at the Steuben County Event Center and it is still a HUGE hit! We had over 375 people attend! The winner of each bingo game wins a designer purse. We conduct a raffle for a mystery purse, and for gift baskets from local businesses and from our members. Our sisters cook delicious food that is available for bingo participants throughout the event. We look forward to hosting our next Purse Bingo this coming October.

#### PHI

Huntington, Indiana 18 Members One Monday a Month July 26, 1920

Slate of Officers: Becky Livingston, President; Mandy Stephenson, Vice President; Jennifer Scalf, Corresponding & Recording Secretary; Judy Johnson, Treasurer; Debbie Stoffel, Advisor; Bethany Swagger, Conductress.

Social Activities: In May we held initiation with two legacies joining us, Adrianna Nightenhelser, daughter of Rachelle Nightenhelser, and Emma Scalf,(fourth generation member) daughter of Jennifer Scalf, granddaughter of Sharon Lofland and great granddaughter of Alma Lofland. In August we held our first meeting of the year since we don't meet in September due to our annual Forks of the Wabash Pioneer Festival we do. In the fall months we are busy with our festival and cheeseball sales so we usually celebrate our sisterhood in the Spring when we can relax and enjoy each other's company. In December we had our Christmas meeting with a party and gift exchange with our sisters. We initiated one new member also that evening, Ana Redner whose grandmother Janet Brown was a member for years. For our Guest Social in March, we had a broken glass art night where the members and prospective members joined us making beautiful glass art to enjoy at Lynlee's Flowers. We had wine and a charcuterie board of foods to enjoy as we made our glass art. Our members attended the Indiana State meeting in April and look forward to attending the National Convention in June! We had initiation in May with one new member joining and have four possible legacies to join as well.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: In August we helped a single mother with back-to-school items for her children, the

members all signed up to purchase things her three children needed, school supplies, backpacks, gym shoes and our chapter bought their school shoes for them. We had our 48th annual Forks of the Wabash Pioneer Festival which is always held the fourth full weekend of September. We had a great weekend filled with sunshine and an awesome attendance this vear. We had many new things and groups added to the festival, we had a WWII camp that was excellent, and people seemed to enjoy it. We also had many new musical groups join our lineup of entertainment on the stage each hour for both days. The festival has many things for the whole family to enjoy, crafts, music, youngen's fun area, antiques, pioneer village, encampment, farmer's market, engines & tractors, motorcars with old time bicycles, food and so much more! In October we had our annual cheeseball sales which our community looks forward to us selling. We did well this year selling over 1900 cheeseballs. We had a record year with profits from our Forks of the Wabash Pioneer Festival and with our cheeseball sales that we had over \$29,000 to give back to our community along with many scholarships! Every December we decorate a Christmas tree at the Historic Forks of the Wabash in our town. It is a fundraiser they do for the Forks each year. Local businesses and groups decorate Christmas trees and then the first weekend of December they have an open house where people buy raffle tickets and then place them in the box in front of the tree they like and at the end of the open house they draw a ticket and whoever wins gets to keep that tree! We have done this for many vears, and it is so much fun! In January we had our annual Library Time with the children along with Winter Bingo and snacks for them. Each child received a book when they won bingo as their prize. Our members also brought in books that were placed in the mini libraries we have all over our town. We enjoy doing this for the children of our community. In the summer the library has their summer reading program which we help sponsor, plus we give each child who participates a pass for our Pioneer Festival to come and enjoy. In May we did speech and hearing coloring books that are provided to all 1st graders in Huntington Community School Corporation to help promote "May is Better Speech and Hearing Month".

Chapter News: This year we continue to get to know our sisters better at our meetings and social events and welcome the new members we have brought in this year to help grow our chapter. We are sad that we have lost five alumnae members this year who served our chapter for many years. We are looking at helping our Meal Ministry by serving meals to the people in need in our community and look for other ways we can get our name out there so everyone knows what a wonderful group of women we are and that we serve our community with pride!



Phi, Huntington, IN, host children's Library Time with winter Bingo and snacks.

#### ALPHA DELTA

Decatur, Indiana 8 Members Fourth Tuesday May 23, 1922

State of officers: Abby Dyer, President; Frankie Barger, Vice President; Frankie Barger, Recording Secretary; Lisa Kiess, Corresponding Secretary; Kelly Drake, Treasurer; Kim Brune, Conductress.

Social Activities: We started off our September meeting with a fun Minute to Win It activity and immediately began planning our major fundraiser, making and selling cheeseballs. Our October meeting was a Halloween party. Our Christmas party was a joyful event with members exchanging gifts. February was guest night. Name that Tune brought many laughs at our April meeting.

Charitable Activities/ Fundraisers: Our successful cheeseball sale allowed us to support many local charities including scholarships, donations to organizations benefiting families and children, as well as community endeavors. Our members also donated at monthly meetings to worthy groups and individuals in the community. We had a diaper party for young mothers needing assistance.

Chapter News: Several members delivered babies or are expecting in the near future. Also, several grandchildren of members were born this year. We continue to enjoy our sisterhood.

#### **ALPAH ETA**

Bluffton, Indiana 11 Members Second Monday October 19, 1923

We had a very busy year. We met every month. On October 9, 2023 we made 836 cheeseballs at our local high school. We had a blast doing it & are so grateful that we help our community in this way. On November 12, 2023, we held a party for our 100th year at the Hunt Club. We were pleased to have our National President Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery there also. She spoke to our group & we did a trivia sheet on our group, which was very interesting! enjoyed delicious snacks desserts. On April 8, 2024 we held our designer purse bingo at the Hunt Club. We had a very nice time. In addition to these fundraisers, we donated to our local community. We gave to the Wells Community Theatre, Family Centered Services, School Literacy Project, Creative Arts Council, YMCA Dream Team, Wells County Library summer reading program, Wells County Historical Society, Wells County High School Scholarships, Night to Shine at Hope Missionary church, and we also gave to the area schools to purchase recorders for the students. We also sold flower cards for a local florist for a monthly bouquet. We are a small but mighty group! We are so thankful to carry on the tradition started here over 100 years ago!

#### **ALPHA RHO**

Garrett, Indiana 12 Members First Monday August 1926

Slate of Officers: Sue Simpson, President; Kim Kumfer Smith, Vice President; Doneata Fritz, Treasurer; Judy Burrell, Recording Secretary; Cathy Smith, Corresponding Secretary; Julie Sonnenberg, Conductress.

Social Activities: Our chapter has a breakfast club, and we enjoy meeting at a different restaurant once a month. Our sisters had an enjoyable evening at Judy Burrell's Pudgy Pie Party. We enjoyed lunch at Trolley Bar and fantastic tour of DeBrand Chocolate. In December we attended a Christmas Candy Caper at Blue Gate Theater in Shipshewana. In February, an evening was enjoyed at Country Heritage Winery eating snacks and drinking wine in a heated igloo. December is always our fun Christmas party at the Vault in Garrett with wonderful food and a gift exchange. As a chapter we enjoyed an evening listening to a hearing impaired

couple. Valentines were made for the residents of Millers Merry Manor. Many Head Start Baskets were provided thrughout the year. We also provided refreshments for the Junior-Senior National Honor Banquet and the Science Fair.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: We have our annual Rib-Eve dinner fundraiser. September, October and November we gather at Judy Burrell's crocked stick kitchen and make our famous triple dipped apples which was a huge success. Total sold 700 apples!! In November we made 633 cheeseballs, another fantastic successful project. Our Easter Egg hunt was very successful again this year. We also sell Cake Rolls and Mini Cinns, 84 cake rolls and 24 mini cinns were sold. At Christmas time we helped a single father, and his three children have a great family Christmas. We awarded two \$1.000. scholarships. Our charitable contributions helped our local St. Martins Health Clinic.

Chapter News: Two of our sisters got married, Alex Pruett married Kyle, and Kim Kumfer married Jason. On a sad note, our sister Pat Kinsey gained her angel wings. Our Sister Julie Sonnenberg's beautiful daughter Stephanie also gained her angel wings. In August 2024 we will celebrate our 98th year!! Together we survived it all and look forward to 2024-2025.

#### **BETA GAMMA**

Peru, Indiana 61 Members Third Monday June 1929

Slate of Officers: Morgan Gold, President; Cami Walters, Vice President; Kellie Gochenour, Corresponding Secretary; Heather Hollenback, Recording Secretary; Stacia Bonifant, Treasurer; Ashley Soldi, Conductress; Laura Hochstedler, Advisor.

Social Activities: We started our social calendar with the induction of two new members in June. Dinner was catered, and entertainment was provided by a local band student. August party was a picnic party theme at the Miami County YMCA, with a tour of the new facility that the sorority made a long-term commitment of \$50,000 to help build. In December, we had a Christmas party with a catered meal and painted a shelf sitter ornament. A fun night of making crafts and a baked potato bar was provided in March.

**Charitable Activities:** In November and December, we gathered at Bair Point Elementary Cafeteria and made a total of

6,270 cheeseballs for our annual fundraiser. We profited a total of \$44,692.51. Garden Gate Greenhouse coupons were our additional fundraiser this year too. With both fundraisers being profitable we were once again able to fund a children's speech clinic and donate to many community organizations and schools to help with their needs. Each meeting we have a "Bragging" moment where any sister can contribute a donation to be able to brag about a positive in their life. All donations go towards the National Long-Term Project.

**Chapter News:** This year we were saddened by the loss of our sister Lisa Reibly on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Lisa was an active member. She will be greatly missed in our chapter.

#### BETA EPSILON

Mentone, Indiana 12 Members First Tuesday September 7, 1929

Slate of Officers: Jayne Brunetto, President; Caroline Day, Vice President; Debi McFadden, Advisor; Jill Gross, Recording Secretary; Betsy Schlemmer, Corresponding Secretary; Marsha Scott, Treasurer; Sherrill Hammon, Conductress.

Social Activities: We began our year with an Italian themed carry-in supplied by our non-officers. As always, we enjoyed great food and conversation. Also, we gathered in December for our annual Christmas dinner in a lakeside restaurant with toys in hand to donate to Toys for Tots. As honored guests, we attended the Tippecanoe Valley High School production of "Mamma Mia". ABBA's music filled the room, and really, who doesn't love "Dancing Queen"?

**Charitable Activities/Fundraisers:** We were fortunate, appreciative and delighted

to have had such a successful fundraising year. The money we raised was distributed to the Tippecanoe Valley School Corporation schools, many charities and various memorials. The rotating grant we received was used to buy items for the Akron and Mentone Elementary Schools art departments. Other charitable contributions included donations to the Tippecanoe Valley athletic department. two golf outing hole sponsorships, the Bell Aircraft Museum, and Miracle Tree Christmas families. Our largest donations were distributed among TVSC teachers for reading, speech and hearing, counseling and music supplies. In part, the following is from Thomas Boys, TVHS Director, Vocal Music and Theater Arts: "Many thanks to you and your awesome sorority for such a generous contribution to our theater program. We'd love to have you as our guests to the "Mamma Mia" musical... Within 24 hours of getting the lighting equipment delivery, your gift has already been appreciated by students and staff beyond the music department." Finally, we granted donations to Ronald McDonald House, Riley Days and Hear Indiana Camp.

This year's fundraisers revolved around manv eniovable activities. cheeseballs were purchased by family and friends with the remainder sold to shoppers at the Warsaw Craft Show and local bazaars. We, the "Sandwich Ladies", were in attendance selling sandwiches at our booth during TVHS football and basketball home games. A new fundraiser was added this year. We held our inaugural 5-K run held in downtown Mentone. This successful event was made possible by generous donations from area businesses. Currently, we are gearing-up for our second run!

**Chapter News:** Due to family illness and obligations, one sister was granted inactive status while another was granted the request to withdraw. Although our chapter



Beta Epsilon, Mentone, IN - Cast of Tippecanoe Valley High School's production of "Mamma Mial"

is small, we remain a close-knit, loving group of women who enthusiastically lift-up each other, community organizations and national endeavors.

#### **BETA RHO**

Goshen, Indiana 6 Members Second Thursday January 18, 1935

So last year, as I reported, we made the switch to start selling paninis and mac and cheese at our local 4-H fair. It was a great money maker, and we didn't advertise as well as we should have. But we are pushing forward with the same items, just a smaller more concentrated menu. We are also bringing back our online auction that was pretty successful the first time we offered it. We also continue to look for new members, but we continue to push forward with what we have.

#### **GAMMA ZETA**

Ossian, Indiana 9 Members Third Monday March 17, 1945

Slate of Officers: Kathy Clark, President/ Photographer; Carolyn Johnson, Secretary; Kim Ashton, Treasurer; Carolyn Rahn, Cheer: Fine Arts/Conductress. Joan Furev.

Social Activities: Our group has continued the tradition of a Christmas party at a local Tea House and then we attend a play at our local theater. We gave two scholarships to college juniors from our county who are majoring in music, speech, art, or hearing impairment. We donated to the Family Service Duck Race, Northern Wells Food bank, Child Protective Services, Scholastic Books, Bridge of Hope Gala, and The Closet. We purchased bookcases and donated books & magazines to the Ossian Nursing Home. In addition, we gave money to the Norwell High School Choir, Band, Art, and Drama Departments. Lastly, we also donated to the Gather & Grow fund for concerts at Archbold Wilson Park in Ossian, IN.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: We had our annual Cheeseball fundraiser where we make and sell cheeseballs that we are known for, Spring Geranium sale and Fall Mum sale.

**Chapter News:** We celebrated our chapter's 79th year during our Christmas party with our current members and some alumni as special guests and went to the play.

#### ETA ZETA

Nappanee, Indiana 14 Members Second Thursday May 7, 1967

Slate of Officers: Amy Martin, President; Pam Lechlitner, Vice President; Donna Persing, Corresponding Secretary; Carla Hand, Recording Secretary; Tonya Beehler, Treasurer; Brittany Wagner, Project Chairperson; Brittney Beehler, Advisor.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: In May we had our annual flower sales. Our biggest fundraiser of the year was our 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual House of Holly with an online auction. Members made hand-crafted Christmas items for locals to bid on. We also had our greenery sales and cheeseballs.

During our annual Christmas breakfast our members collected wrapping paper, bows, and tags for our local Christmas Jubilee where we also helped with the gift distribution.

We donated all our funds to our local schools and community. We were privileged to pay fpor orthodontia work for a young  $2^{nd}$  grader to help with her speech. We gave scholarships to our longtime guys for Camp Millhouse for this year and next and will try to find another group to help starting in 2026.

Chapter News: Our chapter started the year with a couple members going to alumnae and Honorary Retired. That started our downhill turn. By January we had received 6 more notices of members going to alumnae status. So, a discussion commenced that our chapter would disband. At our February meeting it was voted to disband. Our chapter worked together to distribute our funds. The loss of our chapter in Nappanee and Wakarusa will be a great loss. Our local Tri-Kappa, Kiwanis and Rotary clubs will try to pick up some of our charitable donations, so the events still get funded. We will miss seeing each other monthly but will keep in



Eta Omicron, Kalamazoo, MI, volunteered as timekeepers at the Ready to Read "Grown Up Spelling Bee".

contact. We have enjoyed serving our communities and helping the less fortunate.

May you all continue to serve your communities well and help those in need.

#### **ETA OMICRON**

Kalamazoo, Michigan 11 Members First Tuesday April 27, 1969

State of Officers: Brenda Orwig, President; Jessica Lucas, Vice President; Kaye Van Til, Acting Recording Secretary; Cheryl McKee, Corresponding Secretary; Sandy Thompson, Treasurer; Cheryl McKee, Conductress.

Social Activities: By using Zoom for a few of our meetings, we were able to stay connected with several members who spend the winter in warmer states. In November, two of our fabulous sisters volunteered as timekeepers at the Ready to Read "Great Grown Up Spelling Bee". We finished the year deliciously, with a dinner meeting in December to celebrate the holiday season with one another. In February and March, we had guest speakers from the SLP and Audiology fields at WMU.

Charitable/Fund-Raising Activities: We began our fall with delivering a welcome basket for a WMU Seita Scholar student, and 50 fleece blankets were tied and donated to Lydia's Blankets (this is an organization that provides blankets to children in one of our local hospitals). In the Fall, we contributed house and laundry supplies to our Portage Community Center (PCC) Pantry. During the holiday months, we delivered food for food baskets distributed by our PCC to individuals in need. In February, we delivered chocolate suckers to the WMU Seita Scholars. Through our yard, cheese balls and poinsettia sales, we again financially supported many local charitable organizations such as Paws with a Cause. Warm Kids, Kalamazoo Junior Symphony, Optimist Back to School, Ministry with Community, and Loaves and Fishes. Additionally, we continued to support several of our Arts, Literacy, Speech and Hearing organizations. We also partnered with WMU as it held its first "Giving Day" which would benefit our Louella Bradley endowed scholarship. We also helped support the Alpha Xi chapter through the purchase of several copies of "The Christmas Bells" book.

Chapter News: Like other chapters, we too experienced the joys of travel, weddings

and baby births. We are happy to have developed a closer relationship with the WMU Chief Development Officer and the heads of the speech and hearing departments. We hope to grow our chapter to continue our contributions to our community.

#### THETA THETA

Fort Wayne, Indiana 29 Members Second Tuesday September 10, 1971

Slate of Officers: Camellia Kahkola & Linda Morr, Co-Presidents; Cathy Gamez, Vice-President; Roxanne Kelker, Corresponding Secretary; Rebecca Neild, Recording Secretary; Sue Murphy, Treasurer; Michele Phillips, Conductress; Cheri Duncan & Claire Winfree, Co-Advisors.

Social Activities: Theta Theta began the year in May attending our annual Fort Wayne Tin Caps baseball game and continued our summer fun in June with a Wine and Chocolate Tasting at Country Heritage Winery and in July enjoyed the music of the Hubie Ashcraft band at the Embassy Theatre's Summer Rooftop event. Our annual Christmas party with gift exchange was enjoyed by all. We also enjoyed socializing at our two fundraisers, the November Designer Purse Bingo and our March Style Show which included an opportunity to meet at JJill prior to the event to try on fashions followed by lunch at Biaggi's.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Our annual Designer Purse Bingo was held November 5, 2023, at Pine Valley Country Club, and once again was a very successful event. We continued our Christmas Greens fundraiser in December and supported two needy families with Christmas gifts. On March 23, 2024, we held our annual Style Show at Pine Valley Country Club which supported our Fort Wayne's Youtheatre. Fashions were provided by JJill and modeled by our sorority sisters. As a result of our successful fundraisers, our Philanthropic Fund donated funds to seven organizations benefiting Art & Music, five organizations benefiting Literacy, six organizations benefiting Speech and Hearing and one additional donation for a total donation of \$13,600. Our sorority sisters are also very active in volunteering their time and talents ushering for Arts United, Arean Dinner Theatre. Embassy Theatre. First Presbyterian Theatre, and Purdue Music

Center as well as Big Brothers/Big Sisters Lunch Buddy Program, Turnstone, and many other worthwhile organizations.

Chapter News: We welcomed back 29 members this year and enjoyed a very successful year of fundraising. Theta Theta has been very busy preparing for the 2024 National Convention to be held June 22-24, 2024, to which we are looking forward to welcoming our sister Psi Otes at the Fort Wayne Grand Wayne Center.

We initiated three new members for 2024-25 and also awarded Billie Becker the Psi Ote of the Year Award.

#### THETA KAPPA

Edon, Ohio 19 Members First Monday March 1972

Slate of Officers: Carey Kiess, President; Marcia Mohre, Vice President; Jamie Schaffter, Treasurer; Heather Sheline, Recording and Corresponding Secretary; Jacque Radabaugh, Conductress and Advisor.

Social Activities: As we close on our 52nd year as a chapter, we can conclude the year with a feeling of pride that we have successfully kept the values of Psi Iota Xi going strong in our small community. Our meetings are held the first Monday of the month in the banquet room of our community fire department. To celebrate Founders Day, we gathered at our local and long standing famous Diner, Sam's Place for a nice dinner but if I recall correctly, I think every one of us ordered their famous cheeseburger platters! We enjoyed each other's company while discussing a few things on the upcoming agenda and shared the current happenings going on in our home lives including two upcoming weddings of our dear sisters, Abbey and Dawn.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: The sisters of Theta Kappa feel confident that our giving's were well distributed among the community and our time was well spent with a strong focus on art, literature, and music. On Sunday, November 5th, we had our annual fundraiser, the always successful Basket and Purse Bingo. The hard work of our Chair, Sandie Carlson, paid off with record breaking profits this vear. In December, we delivered holiday gift bags to several local senior citizens and as always, they appreciated the holiday themed bags that were filled with useful goodies. We also had a carry in to celebrate Christmas together as a chapter.

At the end of March, we organized an Easter Egg Hunt for the children of our community. Each child received a small basket of goodies and there were large prizes drawn for each age group. The children also received a special visit from the Easter Bunny. Our annual Easter Egg Hunt is funded by our wonderful community sponsors. Each June, we organize our annual community garage sales, and we are looking forward to doing that this year. In August, our community celebrates Edon Days, and this is when we organize the community parade and sponsor a concert for the community. We are currently leaning toward the theme of "Heroes Among Us" in honor of our local Fire Department, first responders, and EMS personnel.

Yearly, we also donate time and money to several other community organizations such as books for the public library giveaways, canned goods to the food pantry, Edon school music and art departments, high school senior scholarships, 4-H camp scholarships, summer lunch program, donations to community families in need, Kate's Kart, the Cincinnati Children's Hearing Aid Trust. and a donation to the PIX long term project. We are proud to say our Theta Kappa sisters are frequently active at school concession stands, Williams County Fair, 4-H projects, music boosters, parents club and other areas of need in our community.

Chapter News: We have remained a supportive and close-knit group through the ups and downs of life in our sorority and community this year. Our sorority has suffered losses and various life trials, but we get through with the support of each other. We have also experienced joy as we share in the celebrations and growth of our extended Theta Kappa family. We are confident that the good always outweighs the bad. Our focus in the 2024-2025 year is to continue to be a close-knit group of supportive sisters and find new and exciting ways to support our community.

#### THETA TAU

Midland, Michigan 12 Members Third Tuesday June 18, 1974

State of Officers: Sandy Casey & Joanne Tickner, Co-Presidents; Connie Parkhurst & Sandy Seeburger, Co-Vice Presidents; Fabienne Zielinski, Recording Secretary; Anita Horny, Corresponding Secretary; Mary Spadafore, Treasurer; and Anita Horny, Conductress.

**Social Activities:** Theta Tau meetings are typically held in one of our sister's homes. After the meetings we have an opportunity to socialize with one another while enjoying delicious refreshments provided by both the hostess and co-hostess.

At our January meeting we met at Creative 360, one of the art programs that we support. It was an amazing opportunity to learn about a place our chapter helps to support and to view art work that is displayed. We also invited speakers to a couple of other meetings this year, including someone from Disability Network and Grace A. Dow Library. All speakers were enthusiastic about their topics, and we learned a great deal.

A favorite social activity this year included dinner at a local restaurant. In December we met at MI Table Restaurant in Bay City and enjoyed a delicious meal together. This year we are celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a chapter inviting past members to join us in June.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Our major fundraiser continues to be selling cheeseballs. In November we got together, along with many extra helpers, to get the cheeseballs ready for delivery to our customers. Our Ways & Means Committee did such an amazing job once again keeping us organized.

In December we also chose two charitable organizations for members to provide personal donations to help women and children in need. This year we decided to provide items such as pillows, personal toiletries, and clothing to Shelterhouse and to Bay Area Women's Center. Theta Tau members are always willing to help others.

We continued with smaller fundraisers including Amazon Smiles & Pampered Chef. Theta Tau also maintained their many philanthropic donations throughout Midland, Bay City, and Saginaw.

**Chapter News:** The members of Theta Tau in Midland, MI continue to be committed to supporting our surrounding communities.

Many members continue to volunteer their time and talents as needed. This past year two members became first time grandparents. A wedding was also celebrated. There were some health issues along the way with improvement over time. We are excited about what we have accomplished this year and look forward to next year.



Theta Tau, Midland, MI, continued their support of Creative 360 with a monetary gift.





### ORTHWEST DISTRICT

Total Community Outreach	\$52,900.65
Total Speech and Hearing	\$ 19,029.37
Total Music	\$ 13,064.68
Total Fine Arts	\$ 35,956.48
Total Literature/Literacy	\$ 26,244.47

15 Chapters

228
Members

#### **NORTHWEST DISTRICT CHAPTERS:** Chi, Brookston, IN...... 1921 Alpha Xi, Logansport, IN ...... 1925 Beta Alpha, Flora, IN ...... 1928 Beta Xi, Crown Point, IN ...... 1934 Beta Psi, Delphi, IN\*...... 1939 Gamma Beta, Remington, IN ...... 1941 Gamma Sigma, South Bend, IN .... 1953 Gamma Upsilon, Wolcott, IN ...... 1955 **Zeta Theta, Niles, MI** ...... 1959 Eta Gamma, Valparaiso, IN ........... 1966 Eta Mu, Rochester, IN...... 1968 Eta Nu, Rensselaer, IN...... 1969 Theta Delta, Bremen, IN ...... 1971 Theta Iota, Monticello, IN ...... 1971 Iota Xi, Winamac, IN ...... 1996 \*Chapter also has an Auxiliary Chapter

As I write this, I am midway through my 38<sup>th</sup> year as a Psi Ote. I have always treasured my membership, but this past year on the national council has made that affiliation even sweeter. It has been a privilege and a joy. A privilege because I have been able to serve the ladies of the northwest district and a joy to be able to share in their stories.

We all know the fruits of service to our individual communities made by our own chapters. But I have always believed that it is when we attend state meeting and national convention that we can fully see the far-reaching effects of the work we do together as Psi Otes. This year I learned that even though I connect with Psi Otes from other chapters at state meeting and convention where I hear about their chapter, their achievements and read about them in the Helicon it was the chapter visits I made that allowed me to truly see the roots of the work done, service provided and the dedication of each chapter member to our sorority and its mission. The chapters I visited varied in numbers,



Pam Gunterman
NORTHWEST DISTRICT OFFICER
Theta Delta, Bremen, IN

but not in their love for Psi Iota Xi. While growing up, my parents often said that you are known by the company you keep – it is my honor to be in the company of so many sister Psi Otes who answer the call and get the job done.

I look forward to visits with more of my northwest chapters this year and to learning about them, their communities, and the work they do in the name of Psi lota Xi.

Pam Gunterman Northwest District Officer Theta Delta, Bremen, IN

#### CHI

Brookston, Indiana 14 Members Third Thursday April 1921

We have been a busy chapter as we are getting ready to host our annual anniversary party in June. We all love getting together to enjoy each other, whether active or retired.

We love spoiling our beloved teachers so for Valentine's Day we gave them gift cards for their classrooms. At one of our meetings, we had an "exchange a book" night and made it fun! We also have a few of our members who like to play card-orama. We will be helping with a new adventure in our community called "Sleep in Heavenly Peace". With the help of donations, a group of volunteers get together on a Saturday to make about 40 beds to donate to children who don't have a bed to sleep in. We also have donated 20 communication boards to our Local Emergency Management Team (EMT, FIRE, and POLICE) to help communicate with people who have difficulty communicating.

We also have our annual fundraising events to assist with our efforts of helping our community. Our Cookies we make at our County Fair and the Butterbraids we sell also.

We also want to remember our loved ones that have passed away within our chapter.

#### ALPHA XI

Logansport, Indiana 22 Members Second Monday August 11, 1925

Slate of Officers: Sandra Shaffer and Kim Busard, Co-Presidents; Carol Eldridge, Vice President: Christina Pifer, Recording Secretary; Mary Ann Delnnocentes, Corresponding Secretary; Krystal Shaffer, Treasurer; Ruth Aldridge, Conductress.

Social Activities: The members met at the home of Barb Hanlon for the annual July summer picnic and officer installation. All participated in a pitch-in dinner. Mary Ann Delnnocentes and Christina Pifer attended the garden party at the Governor's mansion in September commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Hoosier Art Salon. It was enjoyable to talk to the plein air artists. The chapter also met for the annual Christmas party in December. Officers prepared the meal. Activities included games, a gift exchange, and entertainment was provided by member

Carol Eldridge and Ann Hansen performing a piano duet of Christmas music.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: The Thelma Sines Alpha Xi Speech and Hearing scholarship was presented during the July picnic to Jamie Nunan. In January, Gracie Kitchell received the high school scholarship for art, music, or literature. Gracie's college career choice is vocal performance. In April during a business meeting, the literacy grant was presented to Jessica Cobb. media specialist, at Landis Elementary school. The chapter sponsors the Connie Robinson summer speech and hearing clinic. The clinic was held during the month of June. The clinic served 27 children age 3 to second grade. children were experiencing articulation. language, or hearing problems. Dawn Scott, a Psi Ote alumni and author, illustrator, and editor, created the book, The Christmas Bells. The book features our chapter assisting the community in solving a speech and hearing problem involving two hearing impaired children who want to hear the Christmas bells. The book provides information and education about speech and hearing disorders and possible treatment and intervention options. Dawn Scott came to Logansport for an author book signing held at Black Dog Coffee with the chapter providing food refreshments. The book has achieved a top weekly rating of highest new children's book in diversity/disability. The book is available on Amazon in both print and e-book versions.

The members sold flowers from mid-March to mid-April. The flowers were delivered immediately after Mother's Day. This is the chapter's major fundraising activity for the year. Members again sold flowers in August and the mums were delivered in early September. On the same day, a welcome board covered with gift cards was raffled. Flyers offering a 10% discount on the purchaser's meal at Bruno's Pizza were distributed. The chapter collected this as one of our fundraising efforts. The members also sold Pizza Hut discount cards.



Alpha Xi, Logansport, IN, at their July meeting.

#### **BETA ALPHA**

Flora, Indiana 18 Members First Tuesday June 15, 1928

Slate of Officers: Lolita McAfee, President; Beth Johnson, Vice President; Ashley Boyd, Secretary; Sara Overway, Treasurer; Pam Flora, Conductress; Brenda Bonner, Advisor.

Social Activities: Last year, we kicked off our May gatherings with a "Cinco De Mayo" themed get-together at the residence of our colleague, Melissa Ayres. It was an eniovable experience for everyone involved. Additionally, this gathering had a double benefit as we collected the flowers from our spring fundraiser just in time for Mother's Day! In June, we celebrated our Founders Day at the Tropical Moments Event Center, featuring beautiful floral arrangements provided by LuLu's Flower Garden. Each sister had the pleasure of taking home their own personalized bouquet. During the winter season, we participated in the town Christmas parade by decorating our sister Megan Tuttle's side by side vehicle with a festive Grinch theme. Some of our sisters marched alongside the cart, distributing books to the children in the community who were watching the parade. In December of this year, our sisters gathered for a delightful Christmas party at our local train depot. We were treated to a fantastic catered dinner from our local Legacy Meats. Laughter filled the air as we bonded throughout the evening, leaving us eager to organize more enjoyable events in the future.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Our most successful fundraisers this year included selling cookies at the county fair, offering cheeseballs, and organizing spring flower sales. These cookies have become a beloved favorite among the residents of our small town during the fair. Community members eagerly anticipate opportunity to savor these warm, freshly baked treats straight from the oven of our Psi Iota Xi trailer. In March, we proudly sponsored a significant initiative at Carroll Elementary School known as One School. One Book. This endeavor ensured that every student received a copy of the book "Flora and Ulysses," accompanied by a variety of engaging school-wide activities based on the book's themes. As part of this project, the entire school had the opportunity to visit the movie theater together to watch the film adaptation. Another school initiative we sponsor and actively support is the Artist in Residence program. We collaborate to bring artists

into both the elementary and junior-senior high school levels. For instance, we recently engaged local artist Aaron Pickens to lead digital art sessions with students across all age groups. During these sessions, students learned to utilize a free program on their school devices to craft characters, scenery, and other imaginative digital designs. These programs are crafted to instill in our youth the significance of art and literature. In December, we hosted our annual senior citizen Christmas party, eagerly anticipated by our elderly community members each year. Additionally, we made Christmas brighter for many children through our "Christmas for Kids" initiative. Throughout the year, we undertook several other commendable projects, including offering free medical equipment for borrowing and organizing local blood drives multiple times annually. In May, we proudly awarded \$8,000.00 in scholarships to four graduating seniors and three continuing education students. Furthermore, we sponsored the Carroll County 4-H queen, furthering our commitment to supporting education and community engagement.

**Chapter News:** We initiated one new member. Our members are doing great, and we look forward to continuing to look for ways to build our chapter numbers to unite for the 2024-2025 year.

#### **BETA XI**

Crown Point, Indiana 14 Members First Tuesday August 3, 1934

Slate of officers: Katie Tetzloff, President; Michelle Lentini, Vice-President; Megan McGee, Recording Secretary; Colleen Campbell, Corresponding Secretary; Karen Osborne, Treasurer; Megan McGee, Conductress and Parliamentarian; Lynn Clay, Advisor.

Social Activities: We kicked off our business year in May 2023, with our annual Officer Installation dinner, where we reinstated our latest slate of officers. Over the summer, we celebrated our sisterhood, along with our families, at a fabulous and fun "Ice Cream Blast" party. We held our annual Christmas dinner in December, complete with an ugly sweater contest! Then, for our February meeting, we had a soup and dessert fundraiser, where we all paid quarters to try samples, and purchase recipes, of the delicious items made by our members.

**Charitable Activities/Fundraisers**: In August 2023, we kicked off our yearly

fundraising efforts by once again working at the Lake County Fair gates. Our members each donated several hours of their time during the span of the fair to help with this. Then in November, we geared up for our biggest annual fundraiser...Cheese Spread! We produced nearly 800 tubs of cheese spread in our local high school's cafeteria. With the funds from our sales, we were able to support many wonderful organizations, such as, the Northwest Indiana Symphony, Southshore Arts, Crown Point Summer Reading Program at our local library, Crown Point High School Music Boosters, Memorial Opera House, Indiana Ballet Theater, Buddy Bags, and Hear Indiana. This year, our chapter was also able to sponsor the installation of an accessible communication board at a local park, in partnership with the Emberly's Smiles Program. We were also able to provide scholarships for local high school students preparing to attend college to study in the areas of art. literature, music, or speech and hearing.

Chapter News: We've moved! Due to building construction this past year, our chapter is no longer able to meet at the school where we have held our regular monthly business meetings for many, many years. However, we have been very fortunate to find a local church, First United Methodist, that was happy to allow us to use their facilities free of charge. As a thank you for their generosity, our sisterhood has been happy to support and make various donations to their community outreach programs. We are very grateful for them!

#### **BETA PSI**

Delphi, Indiana 26 Members Second Thursday September 28, 1939

State of Officers: Robin Jones, President; Leisha Hill, Vice President; Carla Mote, Treasurer; Brianne Stauffer, Assistant Treasurer; Amanda Sowders, Recording Secretary; Nikki Batt, Assistant Recording Secretary; Kaila Brooks, Corresponding Secretary; Deb Huff, Assistant Corresponding Secretary; Laura Greene, Conductress; Christy Schock, Advisor.

Social Activities: We celebrated our Anniversary with a delicious dinner with our auxiliary and retired sisters present. We had one new initiation to celebrate the evening. During initiation we also celebrated and recognized two very special sisters, Lorraine Weckerly who has been a member for 50 years and Dorothy Mills

who was a member for 75 years. Dorothy shared dresses that she made and wore to events held by Psi Iota Xi. Sadly, we lost Dorothy early this year, but will forever be grateful for all of the memories she created and shared with us all during the 75 years of calling her our sister.

Charitable Activities/Fund raisers: We continue to support the local blood mobile throughout the year. In August we volunteered at the Indiana Bacon Fest collecting tickets and helping with admissions, this continues to be a funfilled day filled with endless amounts of bacon for all.

Our main fund-raising event is cheeseballs in November. We were assisted by our local high school students from FFA and Band, helping us with the heavy lifting, rolling, and loading up all the orders. Our faithful auxiliary continues to make a great contribution and sell hundreds of cheeseballs.

In March we helped support a local youth group with showcasing hundreds of works of art in an auction that came from local artists. It was a joyous night filled with delicious snacks, beautiful art and community support.

In April we helped to fill over 3000 Easter Eggs for the Northview Church annual egg drop, where thousands of eggs are dropped from above and kids from all over the county get to enjoy in the fun filled day.

In May we helped support our local Elementary School Choir by securing the beautiful, restored Delphi Opera House for their end of the year Choir performance. It was a wonderful evening filled with some amazing performances.

In May we hosted a Free Hearing Clinic for Hearing Awareness Month. The services were volunteered by one of our own sister's son, Dr. Leahy, where he provided free hearing screenings for children and adults.

With the proceeds from cheeseballs, we spent the remainder of the year supporting various efforts that support the mission of Psi lota Xi. We support the local library summer reading programs as well as funding library memberships to those who are unable to purchase a membership of their own. We provided funds to the high school band, elementary school for theatre scripts, and purchased books for every classroom in the elementary school.

Chapter News: We welcomed one new initiate this year and one member becoming active again. We celebrated marriages, births, and the loss of loved ones. Through our ups and downs, we

continue to remain strong through our sisterhood and look forward to 2024-2025 year!

#### **GAMMA BETA**

Remington, Indiana 10 Members First Wednesday June 18, 1941

In August the officers of Gamma Beta met to make some plans for the upcoming year which was to start in September. We decided to continue with a theme for each of our meetings as we have done in previous years. By having a theme, it makes the meetings not only business oriented but also adds some socialization aspects that we look forward to each month! This year's theme was "Music genres". Each month we picked a different genre of music. We started in September with a "Music Festival" in which the officers were hosting. We followed with 80's/90's, Country, Pop, Classic Christmas, Latin, Oldies, Blues & Jazz, and Reggae/Jamaican. We will finish up our stroll through the music genres with Hard Rock/Metal in our June meeting.

In October we had our biggest fundraiser, Bingo! Our turn-out for this event was amazing! We had around 275 guests. It is so wonderful that our little community can come together and support each other! We also organized the community "Trunk R Treat". This event is held the Saturday around Halloween. We close off one of the roads downtown Remington for community members to decorate their trunks or vehicles so the little ones can show off their costumes in a safe manor to receive lots of treats! This happens in conjunction with the Lion's Club's annual Halloween parade/walk. Popcorn and apple cider are also served in the Remington Depot. We plan on around 500 children/teenagers participating in this fun event!

In November we added to our long-term project, "Music in the Park". With this project, we have been granted some space in Remington town park. We purchased some outdoor musical instruments and had them installed in this section of the park. It is so nice to witness the fun and laughter coming from those children playing the instruments while walking on the path around the park! We also had the "Photos with Santa" for the second year. A local couple, who collect Christmas items and have them on display in an old church, allows Gamma Beta to bring in a Santa and a photographer. Photos are taken from the many different sceneries within this building. Oh, what joy we see in the children's faces as they visit the jolly guy and give their wish lists! We hope to continue to grow with this project next year!

In December we shop for gifts and support local children and their families who are in need at Christmas. It gives us great joy to know that those less fortunate about us are having their lives enriched! We also have a bake sale at the Remington Fire Department chili cook-off. Members of Gamma Beta bake goods to sell during this time. Community members have a little chili and pork burger for lunch then visit the Gamma Beta bake sale for dessert. It's a Win-Win situation!! Possibly one of the most rewarding projects we supported this year was updating the Christmas tree for the Remington Fire Department! completely decked out this tree in black and red with an ornament that had each volunteer's name on it. It was such a work of art that it could have been on the cover of "Better Homes and Garden", Christmas edition of course! A fancy chair replaced the old folding chair next to the tree. This gave Santa a more comfortable place to sit while listening to all the wishes from the children.

In March we had our annual purse auction and guest night. We had several wonderful purses! You never know just what you might be getting when you are the highest bidder for a purse you like! Lots of fun and laughter to be had during this fun event!

One of our biggest goals as a chapter is to be involved in things throughout the community to bring more awareness of the Psi lota Xi sorority and what it is supporting. The Gamma Beta chapter also has put up a "Little Library" in which community members, young and old, can read a book/leave a book. Among other things, we purchase books to give to the children at school, buy recorders for the 3rd graders, and send 5th graders to the Indianapolis Symphony. All these projects expose a lot of our children to art, literature, and music which they might not otherwise have an opportunity to experience.

#### **GAMMA SIGMA**

South Bend, Indiana 8 Members First Monday May 1953

Slate of Officers: Pam Overmyer, President; Nancy Jo Pinney, Vice President; Lauren Huyvaert, Treasurer; Erica Vitale, Recording Secretary; Mart Rohr, Corresponding Secretary; Debbie Huvvaert, Advisor/Conductress.

Social Activities: We ladies at Gamma Sigma like to come together and enjoy a good meal and conversation. In October we gathered at a local restaurant to catch up with each other while enjoying a bite to eat. In December we celebrated the holidays by once again meeting for a delicious dinner and ending the evening with our annual ornament exchange. Our local library was recently renovated so we utilized one of their rooms to conduct our business meeting then took a self-guided tour. Each May we celebrate our chapter's anniversary with our annual "Birthday Dinner." Sharing a meal and fellowship with our sisters continues to strengthen our chapter's bond.

Charitable Activities/Fundraiser: Gamma Sigma continues to collect gently used reading books, magazines, coloring books (adult and children), along with word search and crossword puzzles and donates them for the "Roving Activities Cart" at a local hospital. These items provide activities for patients or family members while in the hospital.

Despite several challenges and hiccups this year, our annual geranium flower sale fundraiser continues to be a success. Our long-term supplier retired leaving us to find a new distributor. After several delays with order mix-ups and a tornado blocking roads for delivery, we successfully delivered all orders. The fundraiser allowed us to contribute to the Psi lota Xi Long Term Project.

Chapter News: Gamma Sigma is happy to say that our chapter maintained its eight members. We continue to meet on Mondays, typically in person but also by Zoom when members or weather requires it. Two of our members, Lilv Haines, and Kelly Seaver-Haines, enjoyed the Hoosier Art Salon's Sorority Tea held at the Governor's mansion. Lauren Huyvaert continues to play double duty as the chapter's treasurer and the Northeast District Officer, Bev Bixel, made the move to Plymouth to be closer to family. She continues to make the drive to attend meetings and socials. One of our longest members, Nancy Jo Pinney, made the decision to become an honorary retired member for the upcoming year.

Gamma Sigma received the Indiana State Rotating Grant this year. The grant will allow us to provide needed equipment for the South Bend Community School Corporation's speech department. We are pleased to be able to make this donation to promote the gift of speech.

#### **GAMMA UPSILON**

Wolcott, Indiana 3 Members First Wednesday May 15, 1955

We are shaped by the wonderful ladies that came before us and founded this amazing organization. Our chapter may be small right now, but we strive to maintain our chapter's involvement in our small community, just like our great alumni members started doing 69 years ago. The members of Gamma Upsilon love to spread good cheer throughout our community and enrich the lives of those around us. We have had a challenging year, but we are excited for many more years to come!!

Fundraisers/Charitable Activities: Our big fundraiser is Cheeseballs; we were very thankful that we were able to do our cheeseball fundraiser this year. With our fundraiser this year we were able to focus on some of the projects that are important to us and our community. One of the most important things we do as a chapter is our Angel Tree project helping families in need during the holiday season. This year with the funds we had available along with donations from people within the community we were able to help 16 families with gifts, clothing, and food during the holiday season. We also split the cost with the Gamma Beta chapter and sent our  $5^{th}$  grade students to the Indianapolis symphony. It was fun to see how much the students really enjoyed this trip to the symphony. With beautification project we were able to help brighten the town by adding flowers, flowerpots, and American flags throughout the town. We also supported our local Library. Our donation this year helped buy new books for the summer reading program. We were also able to do a few other projects within our schools that involved art, literature, music, and speech and hearing. We are looking forward to recruiting some new members in the coming year!!! The members of Gamma Upsilon had a wonderful year and are looking forward to the future!!!

#### **ZETA THETA**

Niles, Michigan 14 Members Second Wednesday February 14, 1959

Zeta Theta is still alive and well. We are a small group of hard-working ladies that are dedicated to our community and enjoy being a part of the sorority. This year

started off back at our church meeting room. We had a salad supper and discussed the finishing touches to our biggest fundraiser, the Four Flags Apple Festival. We had amazing weather for the outdoor festival and had to put in another row to accommodate the crafters. We also sold our sweet and spicy pickles at the festival. Several members got together to go shopping for our adopted Christmas family. The items were then delivered to the family. During December we had our annual member Christmas dinner and shared a gift exchange. January brought the hot cocoa meeting at our president's house, where members all wore their comfy paiamas and shared each other's company. In February we celebrated our 65th anniversary at a local business that was holding a trivia night to support CASA, a local program for kids in the foster care program. March was a regular meeting where we discussed the slate of officers for the upcoming year and planned who was going to the National Convention. We had another fundraiser at a local restaurant where we received a portion of the proceeds if patrons presented a coupon with our name on it. It was a bigger success than we had anticipated. We will end our sorority year with the delivery of our Lesley Bookout Scholarship for the arts to a local graduating senior and with a picnic at a member's home to celebrate with each other and reveal who our secret sister has been all year.

#### ETA GAMMA

Valparaiso, Indiana 18 Members First Tuesday June 18, 1966

The Eta Gamma chapter of Valparaiso, IN had a banner year initiating two new members, Susan B. and Linda H. into our sisterhood. We are so pleased these amazing ladies have made the decision to join us. We decided to try something new to welcome our new ladies during our spring social this year. Everyone that was able met at a local pizza place for some Karaoke. The singalong was a great success, and a fun time was had by all. There is talk about trying this more often so more sisters and their significant others can attend. We love getting to know the people that are important to our sisters.

We were able to hold our cheese spread fundraiser for the second time post Covid. With the help of some husbands, children, grandchildren and some friends the group made approximately 1492 cheese spread over the course of a 9 hour day. Whew!

What a lot of work from our small but mighty group. We are always thankful our family and friends believe in our cause and are willing to give up a Saturday to help us. The money we raised will be spent on two projects this year. In June, it will fund our annual summer Speech and Hearing Clinic at SELF School. The other new project this year is led by long time sister Linda G. We are gifting our local Valparaiso Fire and Police department communication boards in honor of May is Better Speech and Hearing month. Our hope is that in times of crisis these boards will provide a tool to bridge any communication gaps. If this first set is a success, we hope to fundraise enough to expand to neighboring towns.



Eta Gamma, Wolcott, IN, presenting communication boards to the Valparaiso Police Department.

#### ETA MU

Rochester, Indiana 21 Members First Monday December 8, 1968

Eta Mu chapter of Psi lota Xi continues to see the fruits of its labors throughout Rochester as it brings entertainment to town, adds vibrancy to the community via art and music and works to help the community's children with literacy and speech and hearing.

Our year, and previous years' hard work, proved successful as we paid for and brought two events to the historic 1914 Times Theater in downtown Rochester, which was reopened in late 2023 with the help of as much as \$15,000 in donations from us.

First was a free concert by a string quartet from the South Bend Symphony Orchestra which was well received. Next was a successful two days of free movies and popcorn geared toward children during spring break. We especially like the fact that children from our rural county can attend those movies without traveling far and paying high prices. We also sponsored a puppet show at the library again.

We couldn't fund such things without our projects.

This group of 21 sisters made and sold 2,000 cheeseballs this year. Profit was nearly \$9,000 thanks to the sisters' cooperation and fun attitudes.

Our popular daddy-daughter Valentine's Dance, with a carnival theme, was well attended. Year after year this event attracts participants for crafts, snacks, dancing, raffles and popular photographs of the dads and daughters dressed in their finest.

Partnering with a local clothing boutique, Eta Mu tried out a new ladies' night fundraiser. The process was easy, and we'll try it again. The sorority receives a percentage of the profits on each sale during a specific evening when the store stays open late.

Our annual flower sales wrapped up in early May and we'll be picking those up and delivering them at just the right time for summer planting and outdoor decorating.

We anticipate seeing our city utility workers up and down the main streets in our downtown in mid-May as well. They'll hang the beautiful artwork of local students who were winners in this year's banner contest, themed "My Little Town." Runners-up works are hung in our public library exhibit hall at the current time. The children especially enjoy the winners' reception. Honeywell Center in Wabash is our partner in this venture.

Springtime for Eta Mu also means it's time to prepare for our annual speech clinic. The free clinic is funded entirely by our chapter, helps upwards of 45 children each summer and is open to all schools in the county.

At some point during the summer, we will gather to process and label hundreds of books for the coming school year's Books for Kindergartners, which provides a free book each month to each kindergartner in three school corporations.

Also, in the way of providing literacy opportunities for children and families, Eta Mu had enough leftover fundraising money this year to donate \$2,000 to our local Dolly Parton Imagination Library fund.

After that, we found ourselves with enough money to help repair and purchase musical instruments for our band department, help purchase a new keyboard for our choir department, purchase local artists' works for permanent display at the public library and public hospital in town and provide money for our local youth center to take children on a summertime field trip to an art

museum without it costing them a dime. We know many have never been to an art museum and we hope they come out with a new appreciation for art.

We also were able to sock away \$2,000 into an operating endowment fund managed by our county's community foundation. As the fund slowly grows over time, we know we are protected and can meet our mission and obligations should we ever have another pandemic, or fundraising year that falls short. Plus, our foundation also benefits, therefore our whole county benefits. It's a win-win-win for philanthropy in general.

We'll also provide scholarships to high schoolers as they move onto studies that are the backbone of the Psi lota Xi mission, provide materials to school and public libraries, meet smaller requests as they come and generally support the community in various endeavors that meet our mission. An example: We donated to Brady's Buddies fundraising team for Hear Indiana's Run for Sound. His grandmother and aunt are former members of our chapter.

#### **ETA NU**

Rensselaer, IN 21 Members Fourth Monday January 19, 1969

The Rensselaer chapter of Psi lota Xi held their main fundraising event by making and selling homemade Butterscotch cookies at the Jasper County Fair in July 2023. This project funds many worthy projects in our community. We have Speech Therapy and Hearing Grants available as well as a high school scholarship available. We give art supplies and books to the elementary schools as well as support the summer reading program at the Public Library. In addition, hearing aid batteries are purchased to aid in our programs. We are gearing up now to get ready to make the cookie dough for our "Cookie Shack" at the fair this July.

#### THETA DELTA

Bremen, Indiana 18 Members Third Thursday May 19, 1971

Theta Delta had a "beauty" of a year in 2023-2024 as we took part in many artistic endeavors!

We started the year by focusing on "Piecing PIX Together," celebrating that we are all a piece of the bigger puzzle. Led by

President Janet Davis, members designed puzzle pieces to represent themselves. When put together, the puzzle shows how the beauty of each individual life comes together to form the bonds of friendship and sisterhood in Psi lota Xi.

In September, sisters explored the beauty of flowers in nearby Elkhart County with an outing to tour the Heritage Trail Quilt Gardens. We then welcomed new member Melissa Nunez into our chapter, excited that Theta Delta continues to grow! September also found Theta Delta creating beauty and fun with acrylic pour ornaments (in turquoise and gold, of course!) at the Bremen Arts Collective.

As fall continued, so did the opportunities to create and find beauty: in October, Theta Delta member and artist Kathy Strang led the chapter in making adorable pumpkin art. November brought our annual cheeseball project; our "nutters" would say that even cheeseballs can be beautiful! Through the winter months, we enjoyed our time together and the beauty of the friendships that Psi Iota Xi brings. Members enjoyed the beauty of laughter by attending a comedic play at the Wild Rose Moon in Plymouth. Then when spring finally arrived, sisters experienced the beauty of art and architecture of the past, touring the Ruthmere Mansion museum in Elkhart.

As with every year, Theta Delta found beauty and joy in being able to serve our community. We were able to partner with the Bremen Arts Collective to fully fund the first ASL class open to the community there was so much demand, that we quickly funded a second class! We also greatly expanded our Little Free Library program, doubling our locations from two to four in just one year. Bremen residents of all ages have been quick to use the libraries and share their appreciation! We continued to support groups and activities at our local school such as volunteering at Young Authors' Conference, sponsoring the middle and high school art



Theta Delta, Bremen, IN, sisters creating pumpkin art and great memories.

shows, and helping the band students to experience the symphony. To wrap up our spring, we held our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Bremen Hometown Banners contest for students in grades K-12, where winners' art is made into banners for downtown. Theta Delta also co-sponsored the Spring into Art artisan market at the Bremen Arts Collective, where local artists can share the beauty of their work.

The sisters of Theta Delta found that beauty is all around us and in our sisterhood in 2023-2024. We look forward to what beautiful surprises the next year may bring!

#### THETA IOTA

Monticello, Indiana 8 Members Second Wednesday October 19, 1971

Slate of Officers: Angie Armstrong, President; Jody Headdy, Vice President; Teresa Alexander, Recording Secretary; Shirley Trent, Conductress; Kathy Logan, Treasurer; Thoma White, Corresponding Secretary; Teresa Sommers, Advisor.

Social **Activities:** Our gatherings socializing seamlessly blend business, creating a warm and welcoming environment for our members. From cozy chats over snacks to celebratory dinners and porch hangouts, we cherish every moment of togetherness and connection. One highlight was our anniversary dinner at the enchanting Brookston chapter Psi Ote House, where we reunited with alumni amidst the charming ambiance of their beautiful building.

Charitable Activities / Fundraisers: Our commitment to making a positive impact extended to our charitable activities and fundraisers. The fall mum sales, a perennial favorite, adorned Kathy Logan's yard with vibrant colors, while our spring cheese ball sales saw immense success. with nearly 1000 cheese balls delighting our supporters. Embracing efficiency, we streamlined our operations by alternating cheese ball production between spring and fall, engaging in pre-orders, and exploring innovative avenues like farmers' market sales. We also helped work alongside our sister sorority at the county fair when they sold cookies. Additionally, our ongoing Rada cutlery sales proved to be a convenient and profitable venture.

**Chapter News:** Sadly, we mourned the loss of an alumna, Shirley Brewer. We are happy to announce we had no retirements this year. As a testament to our dedication

to the community, we initiated a fund to acquire musical artwork for the parks department, symbolizing our enduring commitment to enhancing public spaces through art and music combined.

As we reflect on the past year's achievements and cherish the bonds that unite us, we eagerly anticipate the forthcoming year brimming with new opportunities, friendships, and meaningful endeavors. Theta lota continues to embody the spirit of service, friendship, and community, laying the foundation for a bright and purposeful future.



Theta Iota, Monticello, IN, anniversary dinner taken at the Brookston Chapter's Psi Ote House attended by active and several alumni members.

#### **IOTA XI**

Winamac, Indiana 7 Members Third Tuesday June 24,1996

**Officers:** LeAnne Temple, President; Patsy Bennett, Vice-President, Treasurer, Conductress; Monica Spry, Recording Secretary

Social Activities: Our Christmas Carry-in and Dirty Santa has become a tradition for over 25 years and is something that we look forward to very much. This year we had the honor of initiating two new members at this meeting which made it even more special. We all enjoyed initiating the ladies, sharing some of our favorite dishes with others, and hoping for the chance to steal someone's gift during Dirty Santa.

Charitable Activities and Fundraisers: Our annual fundraiser is our cheese spread. We have turned the actual mixing over to Shoup's in recent years but still scoop and package ourselves. We needed to work two different days, but we got it done. We sold to our normal customers and had a booth at the Town and Country Bazaar in December. We enjoyed visiting with everyone passing by and sold the remainder of our cheese.

This fall we will be giving our scholarship to

a girl who will be studying speech pathology. We are very excited to have someone entering this field and hoping she returns to our community as we struggle finding speech pathologists in our small community.

We passed out communication boards that were sourced by one of our members to the police officers in our community. They seemed to appreciate them very much.

Our first venture into being in the county fair parade came this last summer. Marilyn Fox, one of our founding members, and a new member rode in our decorated golf cart. Two of us walked along giving out kazoos that were packaged with information about our chapter. Fun was had by all.

We donated to our public library thirteen softback books, ten hardback books and the kazoos that remained from the parade. The kazoos were used by the children's summer reading program.

The flower bed at our town park is still a project that is maintained by our group and people comment on how much they enjoy it. It is a combination of perennials and annuals so there is always something in bloom.

**Chapter News:** Along with initiating three new members, we had a past member return to our group. It is fun to have her back and reconnect with her.

We lost one of our founding members, Marilyn Fox. She was our source for answers to any questions we had concerning Psi lota Xi as she was not only a founding member of our chapter, in 1996, but she also belonged to the chapter in Kokomo. She was always very enthusiastic about Psi lota Xi.



Marilyn Fox, Charter Member of Iota Xi, Winamac, IN.



# AST CENTRAL DISTRICT

Total Community Outreach	\$ 35,316.03
Total Speech and Hearing	\$ 15,846.97
Total Music	\$ 10,553.00
Total Fine Arts	\$ 12,378.61
Total Literature/Literacy	\$ 8,670.15

16 Chapters

389 Members

EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT CHAPTERS:		
Alpha, Muncie, IN	1897	
Kappa, Kokomo, IN	1908	
Alpha Iota, Richmond, IN	1924	
Alpha Mu, Hartford City, IN	1925	
Alpha Phi, Fortville, IN	1927	
Alpha Chi, Hagerstown, IN	1928	
Beta Zeta, Summitville, IN	1930	
Beta Iota, Farmland, IN	1932	
Beta Pi, Cambridge City, IN	1934	
Beta Upsilon, Mt. Vernon, OH	1937	
Gamma Alpha, Portland, IN	1940	
Gamma Eta, Knightstown, IN	1946	
Gamma Tau, Marion, IN	1954	
Zeta Beta, Anderson, IN	1957	
Eta lota, Parker City, IN	1968	
Theta Zeta, Fort Recovery, OH	1971	

It was a pleasure working with all the East Central District chapters during the 2023/2024 year. I was able to visit some chapters and attend some special events which are always a good time!

Due to your efforts individually and collectively, the East Central District donated \$83,000 to their communities, much of it going to benefit our areas of art, literature and music. What an impact you make on the lives of those around you!

It was particularly nice this year to see so many "old" friends at convention and meet some new ones. I hope you do all you can to encourage members who have never attended convention to do so. It is the only way to get a better feel for what this organization does on a larger scale. Start talking it up now in your chapter and put the dates for the next convention out there early to get them on everyone's calendar.

The purpose of a district officer is to serve to assist the chapters in the East Central district when you need help or have a question. I am a phone call, text, or email away if you need anything at all.



**Beth Vipond**EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT OFFICER
Gamma Tau, Marion, IN

District officers can serve two, two-year terms and if you want to become more involved in the national organization, I hope you will think about becoming a district officer or serving on a committee.

By the time this is published the 2024-2025 chapter year will be half over – I hope you have a fabulous remainder of the year. I also hope to see you at convention in June! In all you do, I hope you carry on enriching the lives of those around you!

Beth Vipond East Central District Officer Gamma Tau, Marion, IN

#### **ALPHA**

Muncie, Indiana 109 Members Second Tuesday September 19, 1897

Slate of Officers: Susan Haynes, President; Shari Dixon, Vice President; Lynn Shipley, Recording Secretary; Mary Le Glore, Corresponding Secretary; Bonnie Smith, Treasurer; Julie Bering, Assistant Treasurer; Nannette Triplett, Conductress; Becky Isaacs, Philanthropic; Jill Moores, Social Chair; Janice Leiphart, Assistant Social Chair; Jacqueline Burton, Communications; Sandy McCallister, Parliamentarian; Becke Bly, Advisor; Lois Largent, President PIX Charities, Inc.

Social Activities: In August our chapter again helped with "Fire Up Downtown Muncie". Friendsgiving at Tonne Winery in November was a wonderful time to relax and further friendships with sisters and potential new members. The PIX Anderson, IN chapter was our guest at our November Friendsgiving carry-in meal meeting where we purchased homemade Christmas cards and gifts from them in support of their fundraiser. The Holiday Tea at the Delaware Country Club was a wonderful evening with delicious appetizers and beverages. Everyone enjoyed socializing with their sisters. The East Central Indiana District Officer, Beth Vipod, was able to join us. The January small groups meetings at various restaurants were well attended and many innovative ideas were shared. At our February Pizza King meeting, our guest speaker shared information about the new YMCA being constructed on the Muncie Central High School Campus. A speaker from the Muncie Mayor's Office of Communications shared information with us at our March meeting about the planning and strategies for the Total Solar Eclipse, which happened April 8, 2024. Muncie was in the "Path of Totality". Valerie Helms-Mejia volunteered at Prairie Creek Reservoir on eclipse day.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Our



Members of Alpha, Muncie, IN celebrating at their annual Founders Day dinner.

Bargain Box resale shop provides quality clothing and household goods to "those less fortunate" in our area. participated in the "Muncie First Thursday" this year, which allowed us to show Muncie area people what we have at the Bargain Box, particularly our Holiday Boutique, and allowed us to be a part of this community event. We were able to distribute \$13,000 in Philanthropic Grants. The recipients were: A Better Way, Funders Forum, Muncie Children's Museum, Muncie Civic Theater, Soup Kitchen of Muncie and the Youth Symphony. Alpha Chapter, Psi Iota Xi supports three Scholarship Funds through the Ball State University Foundation. This year ten students were awarded a total of \$11,892. Their majors ranged from Japanese, to English, to Music, to Audiology, and to Theater.

Our Endowment Fund awarded a total of \$33,000 this year to A Better Way Services, Muncie Civic Theatre, and Urban Light Community Development.

Chapter News: Alpha chapter was represented at the National Convention in June, in Evansville, Indiana by five members, including our President, Vice President, our National Officer, and two super sisters. At this National Convention, our chapter received a Button Award, the "Encourage Award", for planning social activities throughout the year.

Our September Founder's Day meeting with a Memorial Service for fallen sisters, Honoring Past Alpha Presidents, wonderful dinner, and a Founder's Day skit was enjoyed by all in attendance.

Seven Alpha sisters helped with shopping for "Secret Families" in December. They shopped for 5 hours, beginning at 5:45 a.m.!

Our chapter has enrolled in the RaiseRight fundraiser, after hearing from another chapter how easy it is to use, and how great the financial rewards are! We will purchase physical gift cards twice a year for those sisters that do not wish to load the app or link their bank account information. These cards will also be great for gift giving. All sisters are encouraged to download the app for ease in purchasing gift cards year round with Alpha chapter reaping the rewards!

A Strategic Planning committee for the Bargain Box was formed. They produced changes that were put in place during the year to improve our business.

#### KAPPA

Kokomo, Indiana 18 members 2nd Monday December 31, 1908

Slate of Officers: Holly Seamon, President; Dianne Waggaman, Vice President; Kathryn Little, Recording Secretary; Pam Barsh, Corresponding Secretary; Gail Hart, Treasurer; Linda White, Conductress.

Social & Charitable Activities/Fundraiser: Our largest fundraiser of the year is held in May. We host an annual Spring Auction that helps fund our Summer Speech Clinic and our art, literature and music scholarships. This year we awarded one deserving girl a speech and hearing scholarship. She is attending Purdue University. The Speech Clinic is our pride and joy. It has been in existence for over 40 years. Last year from our community, we serviced 29 students. The Speech Clinic operated for 4 weeks in the summer of 2023.

At Christmas time, we address and distribute Christmas cards to various nursing homes. This activity is much appreciated by the recipients. Another charitable activity was our donation of books and money to the Very Early Childhood Education Center. This center is free for pre-school children and offers an activity room filled with educational items. Each child is given a free book.

Our Pampered Chef and Nut fundraisers are great sources in providing needed monies for our community.

Chapter News: We sadly have lost two active members, Marilyn Fox and Nancy Slaubaugh and four previous members, Joella Wessendorf, Miriam "Mimi" Slate, Pamela Wolfgram and Judy Ann Wainscott. For several of our sisters who have health concerns, participation in our chapter meetings has become difficult.

#### **ALPHA IOTA**

Richmond, Indiana 12 Members Second Thursday 1924

State of Officers: Dee Gray, President; Jerri Langworthy, Vice-President; Rhonda Duning, Corresponding Secretary and Conductress; Leanna Whirley, Recording Secretary; Rita Slifer, Treasurer; Mary Huth, Project Chair and Editor; Jerri Langworthy, Publicity; Debbie Hanneman, Service.

**Social Activities:** Many of our social activities are paired with business

meetings. These include a salad pitch-in and a meal at a local restaurant. For a few years now we have met at the local garden shop and made miniature container gardens, while having our business meeting and snacks. In December we met for Christmas dinner at Olde Richmond Inn and had a gift exchange game. We celebrated Valentine's Day together at another favorite place, The Cordial Cork, where we had games and a Secret Sis gift exchange.

Alpha lota 100<sup>th</sup> year Anniversary: It is an exciting year because it is our chapter's 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. We will be exploring ways to expand our reach and Alpha lota's awareness in our community. We have lots of ideas, but currently nothing has been finalized so stay tuned.

Charitable Activities/Fundraising: We have three main fundraisers. We have a garage sale in June with proceeds going to a scholarship for a student studying speech and hearing in college. In the fall we sell bags of pecans to support general philanthropic donations which include a local third grade reading academy, Dolly Parton **Imagination** Library, and scholarships to speech and hearing related camps. In the spring we sell geraniums and flower baskets. Profits from the flower sale are used to fund our kindergarten readiness camp, which emphasizes literacy and language skills. We employ two teachers for the camp which helps prepare the children for kindergarten. Another charitable activity this year was a baby shower for a local Birthright organization that offers support to women who are experiencing an unplanned pregnancy. The shower theme was "Taco Bout Twins", and members bought and wrapped various baby gifts for boys and girls. The gifts were opened at the meeting in November and later taken to the Birthright office for distribution to moms and families in need.

**Chapter News:** This year we initiated two new members. Most importantly we have supported each other through the ups and



Members of Alpha Iota, Richmond, IN, selling flowers to support their charitable projects.

downs of life and celebrated the birth of several grandchildren. We are so blessed with members who are compassionate, giving, and ready to do for each other and our community at the drop of a hat. Well wishes to all our sisters.

#### **ALPHA MU**

Hartford City, Indiana 9 Members Third Monday 1925

State of Officers: Cara Bennett, President; Ashlee Beeman, Vice President; Sherene Clamme, Treasurer; Arlene West, Corresponding Secretary; Garnet Robles, Recording Secretary.

Charitable Activities and Fundraisers: As always, we had two flower fundraisers. We sold beautiful fall mums in September and hanging baskets and flats filled with gorgeous flowers this spring. Pre-orders were taken for both and delivered by our sisters. Both were quite successful and profitable. This enabled us to continue to support our Blackford High School Academic Honor Jacket Scholarships which we have supported for several years now. We were, once again, able to hold our Speech and Hearing Clinic for children. A donation was made to our local Blackford County Arts Center to help fund supplies and education for their "Kids Second Saturday" program which is open to any age child. In addition, we still sponsored a graduating senior majoring in Speech and Hearing, with a scholarship. Our small but very committed members made approximately 900 cheeseballs in November.

October brought Halloween Trunk and Treat. It was so much fun for all and has grown to about 600+ children participating. This event, located around our town square, is held annually by our Chamber of Commerce, and is always a big hit with kids and parents alike. Imagination Library of Blackford County received a donation



Alpha Mu, Hartford, IN, busy making cheeseballs.

from our chapter to help sustain this wonderful program of giving free books to children birth to five years of age.

Chapter News: Our small chapter is still quite viable as we have nine faithful active members, and three honorary members who still go above and beyond to make sure that our chapter remains active, and our fundraisers are profitable. This allows us to give back to our wonderful small community. Unfortunately, we had an honorary fallen petal. She was quite active until just few years ago.

#### **ALPHA PHI**

Fortville, Indiana 19 Members Second Wednesday September 1927

Slate of Officers: Lisa Decker, President; Libby Wyatt, Vice President; Carla Nugent, Treasurer; Crystal Altstadt, Recording/ Corresponding Secretary; Lola Halterman, Conductress.

Social Activities: The Alpha Phi chapter of Psi lota Xi has led a very busy and productive year, under the leadership of Lisa Decker. We started our year in June installing the slate of officers in the Gardens of Kopper Kettle Restaurant located in Morristown, Indiana. September we met as a group and roasted marshmallows and made yummy smores. We had the opportunity to sit around a campfire and tell ghost stories! December we had our annual Christmas social where we had a lovely dinner prepared by the committee. We also had an ornament exchange and an auction where we raised \$310 for our general fund. We asked everyone to bring in donations for a local food pantry. Throughout the year we met to play games, eat ice cream, participate in an art workshop and during our May social we learned some interesting facts about flowers. Did vou know, April showers bring May flowers?! This phrase was a running joke with our chapter because we had a lot of rain during April and sold a TON of flowers in May!

Chapter News: We had one member change her alumnae status back to active, we were all excited to welcome her back. Sadly, we had to say goodbye to a very special honorary active sister. Linda Hochstetler passed away in November and was a Psi Ote for 47 years. Linda loved Psi lota Xi and even when she was not in the best of health she would come to meetings in person or attend via the telephone. We celebrated Linda during our Christmas

social, and the chapter donated \$470 (\$10 for every year she was active) to an organization very dear to her heart, FARM, a local food pantry. Thank you, Linda, for all your years of dedication. You are truly missed.

We Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: have five main fundraisers annually. Fall flowers. nuts/candv. trash bags. cheeseballs. and Spring Cheeseballs continues to be our largest fundraiser. This year we made 1960 cheeseballs and profited over \$7,000. Cheeseball day is long but very rewarding. We are fortunate to have the help of our National Honor Society, and the elementary school allows us to use their kitchen. Spring flowers is another large fundraiser. We sell, unload, and sort thousands of flowers! Flower day is always the Saturday before Mother's Day weekend. In Indiana, you never know if this day is going to be rainy, hot, or cold! Thankfully this year we had wonderful weather. Flower day is tough and every year we get older, but I think many of our sisters will agree that the day feels more like a social than work!

With the support of our fundraisers and the kindness of our sisters we support many charitable activities in our community. We put together cheer baskets to pass out to those that may need a smile. We passed out books to children during the Town's Fall Festival and Breakfast with Santa. We donated \$4,750 to our local school corporation to distribute to the art, music, library, band, choir, and the National Honor Society. We also donated \$1,500 to help fund the summer speech clinic. We funded 3 scholarships totaling \$3,000 to graduating high school students. \$500 to a summer reading program and \$600 to Hear Indiana. This year we also helped support a needy family, a food pantry, a homeless shelter, and the Riley Foundation.

As we gather and open our minds to new ideas, we will continue to cherish our time together, stay committed to our mission, and develop everlasting friendships.



Members of Alpha Phi, Fortville, IN, having "Smore Fun Together" at their September social.

#### ALPHA CHI

Hagerstown, Indiana 17 Members Second and Fourth Mondays December 29, 1927

Slate of Officers: Ann Baumer, President; Mary Ann Pollard, Vice-President; Debbie Weiss, Advisor; Jane Tibbets, Corresponding Secretary; Susie Lewis, Treasurer.

Social Activities: We began the year with a summer social where our two new members led us in a flower-making craft. We always enjoy our Homemade item auction held during our October meeting. One of the other highlights during the year was our "holiday" social. We decorated cupcakes at "LisaCakes," in Richmond, after meeting for lunch together, at Roscoes. This allowed us to support local small businesses.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Early in the year we donated toward the high school band's new instrument trailer. Several of us enjoyed a day of school shopping and helped approximately one dozen students begin their school year with a new outfit and a full backpack. We also donate clothes and toys to the children of a family at Christmas. At most of our meetings, we bring something to donate to a cause or group in our community. (Ex: school nurse, food pantry, senior center, women's shelter, etc.)

Our Fall sales, selling Wicks pies and Concannon's goodies went well. In the Spring we sell flowers which has been a very long tradition for us.

Chapter News: Our biggest news this year was finding our Hoosier Art Salon painting and relocating it to our local library. Alpha Chi received the painting at the 1971 national convention, in Chicago. We welcomed two new members this year and are initiating two more this month! We are trying to do extra social activities and make our meetings more interesting to increase



Alpha Chi, Hagerstown, IN, show off their cupcake decorating skills at Lisa Cakes in Richmond.

the fun. Our hearts are broken, as we have one beautiful sister currently in hospice care.

#### BETA ZETA

Summitville, Indiana 15 Members Second Tuesday April,4, 1930

Slate of Officers: Jill Battishill, President; Sheila Martin, Vice President; Christy Howell, Treasurer; Shannon Howell, Recording/Corresponding Secretary; Dina Moyer, Conductress; Anita Moulton, Advisor.

Social Activities: Our August meeting included a pitch-in salad supper. In September we exercised our creative abilities to make a fall decoration for our personal use. One of our members introduced us to "exercise as a part of life" at our November meeting. Dinner at a local restaurant and a gift exchange was our December "social only" meeting. Some of our meetings include door prizes for various activities.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Our largest fundraiser was our cheeseball project held in November. In May we had a very successful flower sales project.

We presented two \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors at our local high school. We contribute to the high school scholastic awards program. We presented monetary awards to individual senior students for achievement in art. band, and choir. We donated to the student council trunk-or-treat project. We also presented funds to our local elementary school. In December, each of our members provided Christmas gift bags for residents of our local senior care facility. This year we also included blankets for those who requested one for use on their beds. We provided supplies for two of our members to make clothing protectors for these residents. Members of our local philanthropic committee purchased Christmas gifts for a local family. Money for this included chapter funds and member donations. We donated money to our local library for their summer reading program, our local food pantry, and our volunteer fire department.

Chapter News: Under the capable leadership of our officers and project chairpersons we were able to accomplish our goals for the year. We enjoyed our time of fundraising, food, fun, and philanthropy. We look forward to a successful 2024-2025.

#### **BETA IOTA**

Farmland, Indiana 6 Members Second Monday 1932

Our chapter activities this year were two bingo events: one in the fall and one in the spring. Proceeds go to our scholarships that we give to seniors going into one of the following field of interest: Art, Music, or Literature. Some of the left over proceeds go to fund other events we do throughout the year. This past May our community had a tragedy. A local firefighter was killed in the line of duty responding to an accident. We donated treats to them for when they return from calls. Our May bags (goodies) were moved to October for our elderly community members who need a pick me up. This included fruits, bread, and a lighted solar item.

Throughout the year members had several craft nights. We also participated in a Parent Cafe "Family-Centered" Healthy cooking night on a budget. We look forward to what the new year holds for us.

#### **BETA PI**

Cambridge City, Indiana 23 Members First Monday April 23, 1934

Slate of Officers: Tracie Richardson, President; Kim Miller, Vice President; Kathleen McGinley, Corresponding Secretary; Jenni Risch, Recording Secretary; Jessi Risch, Treasurer; Amy Brattain, Assistant Treasurer; Valarie King, Conductress; Christy Tollett, Historian; Stacey Bertsch and P.A. Cohen, Advisors.

Social Activities: We have been busy this year with many activities to promote building relationships with our sisters. We had our annual summer picnic at Silvia Hamilton's house, and we had a great time. We had our Christmas party where we played the "Left to Right" game for cooking items. We also had a book walk where each individual was able to pick a new book to take home.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: We have various fundraisers throughout the year to raise money for local causes. We had our annual Cookie Walk in November and had a record-breaking year in how fast we sold out of cookies. They were sold out in about an hour and half. We also had our cheeseball sale in November and that did very well this year too. We had a big event for this area the Eclipse track was going through our town, and we had dinner to go along with the other events in town. We

were very busy with projects that allowed us to give back to the community in many ways. We gave three scholarships this year to Lincoln High School graduates. Two \$500 scholarships and the Fern Lee for a student who is going into a technical school for a trade. We also give money to the local school for the library, music, and art departments. We helped the local speech teachers with supplies that were needed for serving students. We received the rotating grant at the state meeting last year and with the money we received, we put on a stress management class for local teachers. We had a guest speaker come and talk about how to manage stress, and a fun painting project to wrap up the evening. We also served yummy snacks and had time to be social. Overall, the evening was a big hit.

Chapter News: We did not have any pledges this year, so we decided to focus on keeping the members that we have and growing those friendships. We had a few members pass away this year and we had memorials for those sisters at the request of the families. We had a great year of fun and building relationships with our sisters through the events that we had and during our monthly meetings.

#### **BETA UPSILON**

Mount Vernon, Ohio 11 Members Second Tuesday May 1937

Slate of Officers: Debbie Ruggles, President; Sandra Fithian, Vice President; Trina Trainor, Treasurer; Elaine Ambrosiani, Corresponding Secretary; Kelly Phillips, Recording Secretary.

This year has been marked by numerous obstacles and challenges; but our commitment to our mission has remained steadfast. Despite the difficulties we have achieved the following things.

We have taken the steps to refocus on our mission, ensuring that all our activities are aligned with our goals.

We oversaw the collection of food and donations from all the county's elementary schools for Food for The Hungry Campaign. We collected 6316 food items and donations equaling \$12,446.

We actively volunteered at our local Music and Arts Festival, ushered at many of our community plays, and hosted the reception for the Knox County Symphony. This has allowed us to enhance our community engagement and to support our local arts.

Though these efforts we will continue to grow and make significant strides towards our long-term objectives, demonstrate resilience and adaptability for the upcoming year.

#### **GAMMA ALPHA**

Portland, Indiana 26 Members First Monday and Third Tuesday June 10, 1940

State of Officers: Jeanna Ford, President; Sandy McGraw, Vice President; Rachel Benirschke, Treasurer; Jane Ford, Corresponding Secretary; Jessica Kerrigan, Recording Secretary; Lisa Manor, Advisor; Jeanna Ford, Conductress.

New member induction and chapter awards take place every summer at our annual June Banquet. We met at a local restaurant for an evening celebrating the accomplishments of the past year and look forward to the upcoming one. Our chapter Psi Ote of the Year, nominated by the membership, was Sara Mercer.

Our chapter does not have regular meetings in the summer, and we resume our bi-monthly meetings in September. However, in July, we will be selling Dole Pineapple Whip at our county fair. This is one of our newer fundraisers but has been very well received. Last year we also sold the Dole Whip during Portland's 4th of July festival. In August we tackle our biggest fundraiser for the year by making and selling our famous taco salads at the Tri-State Gas Tractor & Engine Show. This event is held in our hometown and brings in visitors from around the world! Our other main fundraiser is cheeseballs, which we make and sell in late fall. We have a third party mix the cheeseball ingredients for us, and then our members meet to roll and package the cheeseballs. Another newer fundraiser is the making and selling of homemade caramels at Christmas. One of our members and another member's family mix up these yummy treats for us to

Gamma Alpha ladies continue to support a scholarship to a local high school senior(s) in the name of the sorority. We were able to award this gift to a very deserving student, what a great feeling! We look forward to contributing again this year to the scholarship and many other community organizations. We are annual supporters of our local Civic Theater, Arts Place, Jay County Library Summer Reading Program, Jay Schools Reading is Fundamental, Kates Kart, Indiana Deaf Camp, Hear Indiana Camp, local hearing

aid needs, Youth Service Bureau of Portland, Secret Families Christmas Charity, Fourth of July Festival, MidWest Pet Refuge, Red Cross blood drives, local food banks, Jay Randolph Developmental Services, Jay County Summer Swim Team, Jay County Historical Society, and other deserving local organizations. We are very proud to be able to help our community!

#### **GAMMA ETA**

Knightstown, Indiana 21 Members First Thursday October 5, 1946

Slate of Officers: Tracy Schweizer, President; Kay Denny, Vice President; Carrie Ferree, Advisor; Kelly Saunders, Recording Secretary; Brandi Happe, Corresponding Secretary; April Schmidt, Treasurer; Darlene Dellinger, Conductress.

**Social Activities:** We started our year off in September with a pool party meeting at our sister Michelle's house. We were able to have the rest of our meetings at the Hoosier Gym in Knightstown. As we continued themed meetings this year again, our sisters really took it up a few levels making each meeting memorable. "Make it. Bake it. or Fake It" was a super fun meeting and added generous funds to our general fund! Our holiday party was held at Temptations in New Castle with 19 sisters in attendance. We enjoyed a chartered bus, dinner and white elephant gift exchange. Then in March, eight sisters represented at a Trivia Night together, supporting another sorority in our community.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Several members volunteered monthly for our local Senior food giveaway and Second Harvest Food Bank. We love giving to our local libraries and speech and hearing programs, along with volunteering for them. Once again, we set up a photo booth at the Trunk or Treat providing free pictures to the community, while drawing traffic to our Facebook page where they can get their pictures. Rather than candy, we handed out mini coloring books and crayons. A new program we started this year is the CA Beard Peer Appreciation Award. It is a donation to 3 certified and 3 non-certified staff at our local schools to help support them and the schools. Our chapter tried a new fundraiser to replace our garage sale. We worked with Funds2orgs.com to collect gently used shoes from friends, family and surrounding communities. It was a great success! Then after learning about RaiseRight at our

National Convention, we quickly started. This has been a great replacement fundraiser for Amazon Smiles. Our biggest fundraiser is our Haunted Trail! We are proud of the work our chapter puts towards this event and the tremendous support from surrounding communities. We SCARED hundreds of people and loved every minute! In addition, our chapter sold Warm Glow room sprays, homemade dog biscuits and Abbott's Candy caramels during fall and winter. Overall, our chapter had one of our biggest years in fundraising and we are ready to give back in the upcoming year!

Chapter News: We gained one transfer sister this year. We accepted a change of status letter from one of our members in our chapter. Sadly, our chapter had two fallen petals this year. In their honor, we received donations applied towards a memorial fund set up. The memorial fund will be used to honor past and future fallen petals for years to come.



Gamma Eta, Knightstown, IN, created the photo booth at their local Trunk or Treat.

#### **GAMMA TAU**

Marion, Indiana 33 Members First Tuesday April 25, 1954

Slate of Officers: President: Tori Mankin Harrell; Vice President: Renee Cox; Recording Secretary: Chris Rumple; Treasurer: Cindy Fortney; Corresponding Secretary: Lindi Moore-Conrad; Conductress: Beth Vipond; Advisors: Linda Kitts, Beth Vipond

The year has flown by for Gamma Tau! Fall is all about cheeseballs, cheeseballs, cheeseballs, cheeseballs. November marked our 43<sup>rd</sup> year of cheeseballs, this year making around 6500 balls. Our sisters have it down to a science, making all of them in under seven hours, then finishing clean up the following day! We have some volunteer

husbands and church friends that help us with storing and moving the cheese and labor the day of, so for the first time ever we invited six gentlemen to our Christmas party and presented them with certificates of Honorary Membership in Psi Iota Xi! They received gift bags, dinner, and all our most heartfelt thanks for helping us make our biggest fundraiser such a success.

This summer we were able to hold our free speech and hearing clinic for the first time since COVID, this year even hiring an extra SLP to help with our daily clinic that served 16-18 students for three weeks after the initial pretest. Due to a lack of SLP in the school system, there has been significant interest in the clinic for this coming summer and we are hopeful that we can reach even more children.

We try very hard to keep our local projects on mission, giving to the Services for the Visually and Hearing Impaired, the Civic Theater/Community School for the Arts, Grant County Senior Center, Hoosier Shakes, Gas City Concerts in the Park, Marion Parks Department, Distinguished Young Women, CASA, Madison Grant School Band and Oak Hill School Band, along with our long term projects of our Speech and Hearing Clinic, Books for Babes where we give a copy of Love You Forever to every baby born in our local hospital to start their reading library and our scholarships, but we also have causes that are near and dear to our hearts that aren't fully in line with our primary mission. To that end, we raise money at each of our business meetings throughout the year, choosing a different local charity each meeting, and have our membership split into two teams, earning points for attendance, wearing their pins, a silly costume/accessory on theme for the month, monetary donations to the charity and individual item donations to the charity. The team with the least number of points is responsible for making the food for our carry-in first meeting of the year in September. Doing so allowed us to donate both money and needed items to the Humane Society, Hope House, the VA Food Bank, Open Heart Women's Shelter, and Jayva's Love.

Currently, we are focusing on this year's speech and hearing clinic, our upcoming CASA sand sculpture event and getting ready to welcome everyone to Marion for next year's State Meeting!



#### **ZETA BETA**

Anderson, Indiana 7 Members Third Tuesday April 7, 1957

Slate of Officers: Kaye Judt, President; Sally Jones, Vice-President/ Conductress; Linda Gould, Recording Secretary; Jan Olive, Corresponding Secretary; Mary Falkenberry, Treasurer; Melody Hunt, Advisor

Social Activities: The dictionary says that friendship is a relationship of mutual affection between people with a stronger bond than just an association. That describes Zeta Beta sisters. We have socialized weekly throughout the year making our paper creations with food, laughter as well as planning our next selling venue. In March, we met for a fun meeting at a local restaurant.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Through our fundraising activities of selling our creations at the National Convention, a booth at the Victoria Guild Bazaar which supports our local hospital, St. Vincent Anderson, and being invited to sell to and have dinner with Alpha chapter, we were able to support the Anderson Symphony, Madison County Literacy Coalition, AACC/ AAYC Music Scholarship, Madison County Art Scholarship, Art Association of Madison County, and the National Long Term Project. In March we were honored to provide refreshments for the Association's Twenty-fifth Year Celebration of their high school student art show. One fundraiser we thoroughly enjoy is catering for the JOY luncheons at a local church. We do this three times a year. Many guests say they look forward to our meals. At each monthly meeting, the hostess chooses an organization that we individually donate either money or items to such as local food or non-food pantries and Buddy Bag program that provides a bag of food to elementary children for their weekend.

Chapter News: Our six members are so blessed with strong faith. Many times, we have asked each other for prayers for our spouses, family members, and for ourselves. Prayers have lifted each of us in good and difficult times and made us closer. We support each other in many ways and look forward to next year.

Four new members of Theta Zeta, Fort Recovery, OH, on initiation day. Welcome ladies!

#### ETA IOTA

Parker City, Indiana 15 Members First Tuesday March 24, 1968

State of Officers: President, Connie Goen; Vice President, Cindy Thomas; Treasurer, Tonya Garland; Recording Secretary, Judy Moulton, Corresponding Secretary, Lesley Moulton; Advisor, Dana Calhoun; Conductress, Dana Calhoun; Historian, Judy Moulton.

Social Activities: Our social activities have continued to focus on our relationships and enjoying time together. In December, we had two social events. We had a wonderful meal together, followed by seeing the Muncie Civic Theatre's production of White Christmas. We also had a lovely Christmas social dinner at the home of one of our members. During that time, we had fun playing a few festive games, we collected funds to shop for a local family and had our annual ornament exchange.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: At the 2023 State Meeting, we heard about the Communication Boards, so we took that on as a project and were able to purchase those for all Fire, Police, EMT and First Responders in Randolph County. We are very excited about the potential impact of this program. We had a very successful Arts and Crafts Show in the fall with several new booths. We raised a nice profit for our charitable donations. We also set up an apparel booth at both the National Convention and State Meeting. Our spring flower sale was very successful. We awarded 4 local scholarships to graduating seniors and have continued to support many school and community groups in the areas of Art, Literacy, Music, Speech and Hearing.

Chapter News: We amended our bylaws to bring flexibility to the time of year for initiation. We brought one new member into our chapter this year. We continue to be thankful for one another and we will continue to strengthen our bonds and hopefully continue to add to our group in the coming year.



#### THETA ZETA

Fort Recovery, Ohio 37 Members Fourth Wednesday June 9, 1971

Slate of Officers: Jessica Jutte, President; Kelly Walter, Vice President; Diane Roessner, Corresponding Secretary; Jessica Niekamp, Recording Secretary; Carrie Lamm, Treasurer; Shelly Vaughn, Conductress.

Social Activities: Our group meets monthly as a whole but also meets in smaller subcommittees to plan events. The annual Christmas party was held at Make it Boutique in Celina, OH. Members enjoyed crafting, food and fellowship. This winter, a former member authored a book that our chapter had the privilege to help promote. In this, our chapter helped to organize a book signing at our local library and promoted our former member's penning of her life with a son with Down Syndrome. We also enjoyed a purse auction at a local restaurant in February, where we were able to bid on purses filled by chapter members. Lots of laughter, bidding and good food rounded out the fun -filled evening. The funds raised were collected to help a fellow sister's family member in need.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: We continued our activities this year with the popular Mother Son Day of Fun event. Moms and their sons enjoyed a fun filled day of carnival games, dodgeball, basketball, Minute to Win It Challenges, jumpy houses, and the opportunity to win a variety of prizes. The group completed another year of Krispy Kreme donuts as a fundraiser, selling donuts at both home football and basketball games. We held our craft/vendor fair, The Brick Street Market, on our town's brick street in April. Several food trucks, vendors and merchants joined in on the fun in our historic downtown brick street.

We are busy preparing for our town Harvest Jubilee celebration in June. We raise money through a beer/wine tasting event and quarter auction. Other fundraisers throughout the year include the community calendar, cake roll sale, garage sales and One of a Kind Auction. A new fundraiser for next year will be selling stadium chairs with our local school mascot on them.

**Chapter News:** We were pleased to initiate four new members through an initiation ceremony in April.



# EST CENTRAL DISTRICT

Total Community Outreach	\$ 18,871.74
Total Speech and Hearing	\$ 25,203.53
Total Music	\$ 18,772.70
Total Fine Arts	\$ 18,655.47
Total Literature/Literacy	\$ 22 558 96

**16** Chapters

300 Members

## WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT CHAPTERS: Omega, Lebanon, IN ...... 1921 Alpha Zeta Aux, Thorntown, IN ..... 1923 Alpha Lambda, Zionsville, IN\* ..... 1924 Beta Tau, Frankfort, IN\*.....1936 Delta Zeta, Lafayette, IN ...... 1940 Gamma Delta, Attica, IN ...... 1941 Gamma Theta, Speedway, IN ...... 1948 Gamma Nu, Brownsburg, IN .......... 1950 Gamma Xi, Crawfordsville, IN ..... 1951 Zeta Epsilon, Bargersville, IN....... 1958 Eta Delta, Carmel, IN ...... 1966 Eta Lambda, Beech Grove, IN ...... 1968 Iota Theta, Armstrong, IL.....1980 Iota Sigma, St. Joseph, IL .....2004 Iota Tau, Indianapolis, IL ......2006 Iota Upsilon, Virtual......2017 \*Chapter also has an Auxiliary Chapter

While much of West Central is easily accessible by interstate and beltway roads, I did get to see some "off the beaten path" country in my travels this year.

I was blessed this year to be hosted by Eta Delta, in October; Gamma Delta, Attica, and Beta Tau, Frankfort. Taffy Day, the 2023-2024 National Treasurer, visited Alpha Lambda Zionsville for me and assisted them with their Christmas service project.

Most of our chapters are in more rural areas and small towns, and the membership reflects the populations therein. Despite our relative sizes, our district raised over \$105,000 once again for projects in our communities. That's a lot of beauty we helped put back into the world!

I would like to congratulate West Central's Button Award winners this year: Gamma Xi-Crawfordsville and Beta Tau-Frankfort. Gamma Xi sponsored a project that placed story boards along Sugar Creek Trail in Montgomery County: 8-12 "Tale Trails" for people to read as they walk, run, or bike. Beta Tau's annual art show attracted over 200 participants from junior high and high schools, showcasing budding



Missy Cooper
WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT OFFICER
Gamma Nu, Brownsburg, IN

artists to their community. Well done, sisters!

On a personal note my Gamma Nu, Brownsburg chapter is going to initiate someone who was referred by a sister from Beta Tau. I was honored to sponsor her and look forward to her involvement with us! It's this kind of connection across chapters that adds fuel to my fire for service to my chapter, my district, and our sorority. Keep looking around and looking out. Your next sister is waiting for you!

Pax vobiscum.

Missy Cooper West Central District Officer Gamma Nu, Brownsburg, IN

#### **OMEGA**

Lebanon, Indiana 27 Members First Monday November 12, 1921

Slate of Officers: Tammy Turner, President; Brenda Dukes, Vice-President; Baili Hart, Recording Secretary; Cheri Keller, Corresponding Secretary; Taffy Day, Treasurer; Mary Anne Koehler, Conductress; Wendy McMann, Advisor.

Social Activities: The year 2023-24 saw Omega sisters sharing in "family" fun that began with a fun summer picnic and a then a fabulous fall social featuring the music and acting of the Black Box Theatre Company and a sneak peak of their performance Jungle Book! Of course, the desserts that night and décor were also just as fabulous in true Omega style. The spring social was all about BINGO and the committee made sure that all sisters went away feeling like winners – and knowing how "lucky" we are to have each other!

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Our annual Cheeseball fundraiser is always a highlight and some changes this year meant that we got to make additional money by changing production venues and getting back to making more of the cheeseballs ourselves post-pandemic. Jawbone BBQ in Advance, IN was the perfect partnership to produce nearly 1.200 cheeseballs. In addition, our spring Flower Sale is always a success and gets us excited about spring's return!! The flowers from Galema Greenhouse in West Lafayette, IN are ones we appreciate, and the flowers continue to be a hit with buyers. Lastly, we have really enjoyed helping at a regional fall and holiday show to earn extra fundraising dollars for the chapter.

Thanks to our successful fundraising during the year, Omega came together to invest in our community to benefit neighbors of all ages including those who enjoy literature through our local library "Psi lota Xi Bookshelf" and the youth of our community by helping with scholarships at the Black Box Theatre Company in Lebanon. Each spring, we are also honored to support a high school student furthering her education in a field that is close to the heart of our PIX mission. Additionally, we love planting flowers in a flower bed at a local city park and keeping it looking grand for all to enjoy.

Chapter News: We are very thankful to have one new pledge this year. A very special night of sisterhood took place in December recognizing the holiday season and enjoying the music from a local HS choir as well as a meal, hot cocoa bar and mug exchange.

#### ALPHA LAMBDA

Zionsville, Indiana 19 Members First Tuesday 1924

Slate of Officers: Kricket Williams, President; Rene' Frye, Vice President; Beth Carney, Recording Secretary; Michelle Walters, Corresponding Secretary; Cathy DeMars, Treasurer; Shannon Hall, Conductress; Beth Carney, Advisor.

Social Activities: This fall we were excited to celebrate the completion of the Little Free Library and bench renovation at the Sullivan Munce Museum in Zionsville. These were designed by a local high school student and painted with the help of several of our members. We also enjoyed second annual evening "Singo" (Singing Bingo) at a local Winery this past fall. Several members attended a Music2Heal benefit concert which supported local mental health organizations. In February we toured our newly built local Isaiah 117 House and learned about their mission to ease the transition of children awaiting foster families. In the spring, members enjoyed a tour of St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf in Indianapolis where we learned about the services they provide for children with hearing loss. We also hosted our new member initiation there! This spring we read, then met at a local restaurant and discussed, our Book Club selection, The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto by Mitch Albom. It was a story of magical realism, told by "Music" as the narrator. We followed this meeting with a trip to Fundae's, a local ice cream shop which is run by one of our members! This year we continued our tradition of passing "The Hat," a decorated hat which is awarded to a different member each month for aboveand-beyond contributions to the chapter. We also enjoyed our "Ways & Means" activity where members donated dollars for a chance to win a unique or handmade prize.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Our hand-rolled cheeseballs and handmade chocolate-dipped peanut clusters fundraisers enabled us to continue to help our community through several donations and our scholarship. Prior to our Isaiah 117 House visit, we donated a much-desired Polaroid camera and film. At Christmas, we decorated gingerbread houses and

shared a meal with young teenage residents of The United Methodist Children's Home. In January, we kicked off our annual Indy Book Project book drive to help get books into the hands of children and teens throughout the Indianapolis metropolitan area. By the end of the drive, we collected almost 900 books from our neighbors, and friends. Zionsville residents. Also, some of our chapter sisters donated our copies of The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto from our book club to local organizations. In addition, we created a "Summer Fun" basket for the National Convention and chose a local high school senior as our scholarship recipient this spring!

Chapter News: We initiated one new member, Patti Hammerle, in May. The sisters of Alpha Lambda had a great year of sisterhood with our social gatherings and charitable contributions this year. We are looking forward to celebrating our 100<sup>th</sup> year this fall with an entry in the Zionsville Fall Festival Parade and a gathering/open house at the new Whitestown Branch of the Hussey-Mayfield Memorial Public Library!



Members of Alpha Lambda, Zionsville, IN, toured the Indiana United Methodist Children's Home and made gingerbread houses with the kids.

#### **BETA TAU**

Frankfort, Indiana 23 Active Members First Tuesday May 23, 1936

State of Officers: Marie Shaffer, President; Courtney Meyers, Vice President; Samantha Kauffman, Treasurer; Riley Spry, Recording Secretary; Rita Robertson, Corresponding Secretary; Debby Niemesh, Conductress; Samantha Leach, Advisor.

Social Activities: The fall social committee tried to come up with a bit of a twist for our members. Around 20 members met at the local Anderson Flower Farm and picked buckets of flowers. A catered meal by Chicken Salad Chics was another nice

change.

For a few years we have been speaking to Beta Psi, Delphi, members about having a social together. Well, this was the year! We met on November 2nd at the Rossville Presbyterian Church in Rossville, IN. Laura Green, Delphi member and owner of the Urban Chic boutique, headed up a style show for us. Moxie Mavens, a boutique in Frankfort, showed off their clothing and accessories too. We had a massage group located in Rossville, Indiana give us short massages and tips. We had a Demarle demonstration and sales table. There was so much food! The event turned out to be successful and we got to know members who live so close to us.

At our December meeting we gathered at the Angry Donkey restaurant in Michigantown, IN. We enjoyed a home style meal, and the committee spoiled us with Christmas cookies in a gift bag. Our District Officer, Missy Cooper, attended as well. She drove a long way to get there, and we were thrilled to have her share in the holiday spirit.

We can't forget our Parkview County Home residents; therefore, we had our annual pizza and bingo party in March. We bring our smiling faces and prizes!

April is our BIG SISTERHOOD month with our chapter meeting, High School/Middle School Art Show, IN State meeting and lastly our Ladies Night Out fundraiser. We had 245 entries from local schools in the art show. It was our 39th year for this art show.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: We held the same three fundraisers as we did the year before. We sold cheeseballs in the fall and sold cookies and pies in the spring. Our Ladies Night Out was held in April. All three were successful in helping us to help our community and national projects.

**Chapter News:** A few officers got together in the fall and began updating our membership records. We have not finished but got a good start on it.

We brought in two new members recently.

We welcomed Riley Spry and Brooklynn Phipps to our sisterhood!

Adding new members is key to growth, may we continue to try and find people to join us in our endeavors. It never hurts to just ask

#### DELTA ZETA

Lafayette, Indiana 10 Members Third Tuesday April 24, 1940

State of Officers: Debbie King, President; Jody Conover and Carol Young, Co-Vice Presidents; Mary Gear, Recording Secretary; Marge Prior, Corresponding Secretary; Callie Lankford, Treasurer; Carol Young, Conductress; Sharon White, Advisor.

Social Activities: In May 2023 we met at 21 Petals Florist and Flower Market. There our new officers were installed. After our meeting, the owners of 21 Petals gave a demonstration on flower arranging. After the demonstration, we were given a vase, greenery and choice of flowers to prepare our own arrangement. All arrangements were very creative. We were then given the opportunity to purchase our creations. In June, our president presented us with a new agenda item. She asked the longestserving member to explain how and why she became a Psi lota Xi member. Each month thereafter the next longest-serving member is to tell her story and so on. A member announced she was getting married on July 15, 2023. In July, our chapter sponsored our first Pretty Baby Contest held at the Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds. The fee per child was \$5.00 with five age groups (baby up to 36 months). The 44 contestants were dressed in their finest and performed very well despite the very hot day. Trophies and participation ribbons were distributed. We had a great crowd and are planning to do it again next year. Also, in July we donated an e-card/gift card in the amount of \$200 to Erin Mundy, a SLP/speech therapist, who took an open position for speech and

> Beta Tau, Frankford, IN, sisters enjoyed a fall social at their local Flower Barn.

hearing language at Hershey Elementary School in Lafayette. The position had been open for two years and was in desperate need of supplies. Erin is considering membership in our chapter. In September we received a thank you from a member for our wedding gifts of a yellow rose bush and gardening supplies. An alumnus of the sorority reached out to our president indicating she would perhaps like to become more active again. October is our annual cheese ball preparation month. For the past few years we've had a catering company, with a commercial sanitized kitchen and approved by the Health Department, mix. roll and wrap our cheese balls. We gathered in a member's home where several members volunteered to help with combining a bag of chopped nuts with a wrapped cheese ball. In November we had several cheese balls left over, but. fortunately, we learned of a couple opportunities in our community where we could sell our cheese balls. In December. we were provided with the same opportunities to sell our remaining cheese balls. The chairs of our special projects were reminded to obtain a Christmas wish list from the four organizations we continue to support. They are: The Women's Shelter/Domestic Violence Intervention & Prevention is supported for their emergency shelter with helping women and children escape unsafe environments and for our donations of various items to help with daily necessities. Grant's House is Wabash Center's Youth Services for children with disabilities or special needs. They use an individualized approach to prepare youth for successful re-entry into the community. The Heartford House is a child advocacy center for children who suffer abuse or who have witnessed a crime. purpose is to allow children who have been a victim of or witness to a crime to participate in a forensic interview with specially trained professionals who are members of a multi-disciplinary team that includes law enforcement, prosecutor's office and child protective services. Finally, Cary Home for Children is a youth behavior modification residential program. Besides these four donations, we also provided funding to The Art Reach Instrument Library, Jefferson High School Art Department, The Arts Federation, Purdue Freedom School, SuperDuper Gift Card for SLP at Lafavette School Corporation, and the PIX National Memorial Fund. After the meeting, our president challenged us to create and wear an ugly Christmas sweater/sweatshirt or tshirt to our December meeting.

December's meeting was held at a

member's home where we had a brief meeting. After the meeting, we voted by secret ballot for the member with the ugliest shirt/sweater. We also had a candy/cookie exchange. In February it was announced that two chapter delegates and two non-delegates were going to State Day in Crawfordsville, where six proposed By-Law changes were to be discussed and voted upon. For Community Outreach. members were reminded to drop off any extra blankets and warm clothing for Cover Lafayette Project. Also, three members volunteered to be on the nominating committee to select the slate of officers for next year. At March's meeting discussions were held regarding raising membership dues. A motion was made and seconded to increase our yearly dues to cover the increase in fees by National Our By-Laws Committee and State. discussed areas in the by-laws that probably need updating. They will continue to review these areas and report back to members at a future meeting. For Community Outreach, the Tippecanoe Arts Federation needed funds for an art outreach program they were sponsoring. A motion was made and seconded to provide funds towards their project. Another art/ music project needed at Jefferson High School was brought to our attention. The school needed donations to purchase turntables. A motion was made and seconded to approve this funding. This will be our donation to music. Our 2024-2025 slate of officers was presented at this meeting. In April we celebrated our 84th anniversary with a luncheon at the Fowler House Mansion. We enjoyed this location so much last year that the committee decided to return this year. The Fowler House Mansion is one of the finest existing examples of Gothic architecture in the mid -west. It was completed in 1852 by Moses and Eliza Fowler then renovated and expanded in 1917 by their grandson Cecil and his wife Louise. Once again everyone enjoyed the food, conversations and atmosphere. The 2024-2025 slate of officers was reread for May installation. There were no nominations from the floor. All chairs of the special projects have spent their allotted funds for their assigned projects. Thank you notes were received from all the organizations.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Again, our cheese balls were the biggest fundraiser of the year. Thanks to some creative thinking we were successful in preparing and distributing the cheese balls to our customers. We take great pride in serving a wide range of people in our community, in the areas of art, music, speech and hearing, and literature, as well

as needs specific to our area. We continue to support the Arts Federation through membership and their After School Arts Program, which provides free classes at their facility. Our chapter was able to finish funding a local teacher's request at Jefferson High School. Our funding assisted in providing 20 sculpting wheels for her art classes to create specifically Greek inspired vases: however, the turntables will also be used year-round during Ceramic 1 and 2 assignments. More than 50% of students at Jefferson High School are Black, Latino, and/or Native American, and more than 50% come from low-income households. By providing these turntables, students can use equipment they might not otherwise use. Ceramics can be a career opportunity for them later in life or can also just be a hobby or a lifelong passion. We were also able to support The Arts Federation and their ARTreach program by providing a donation of band supplies, including a pair of snare drum sticks, alto sax reeds, bass clarinet reeds, clarinet reeds, and tenor sax reeds. This donation of supplies will set 17 students at Sunnyside Intermediate School up for success in the coming year in their band class. By supporting students at intermediate level, we hope to continue their love of music for their entire life.

Chapter News: Our sisters continue to support one another through life's challenges, and we look forward to a year of sharing friendship, laughter and service with others, and to help ensure that the lives of those around us may be enriched! Recent newlyweds, Kristen Rich Lewis and her husband, bought their first home.

#### GAMMA DELTA

Attica, Indiana 7 Members First Monday September 26, 1941

Gamma Delta is a small but mighty group. With only seven active members we all come together to give back to our community. We are still able to give local



Gamma Theta, Speedway, IN, enjoyed a white elephant sock exchange during the holiday season.

scholarships, local food banks, summer reading programs, and summer park programs. We hope we can continue to give back for years to come. We were led by President Rita Lanum this year.

We are already looking forward to next year to see what it brings.

#### **GAMMA THETA**

Speedway, Indiana 18 Members Second Thursday June 8, 1948

State of Officers: Morgan Sprecher, President; Melissa Gray, Vice President; Jennifer Doyle, Corresponding Secretary and Advisor; Elizabeth Shupe, Recording Secretary; Kathy Shupe, Treasurer; Cindy Helmrich, Conductress.

Social Activities: Gamma Theta hosts several mini social activities each year and in September we visited a local art studio, Mars Hill Art Center, where we decoupaged terra cotta pots and filled them with gigantic mums! We also celebrated Founders Day by wearing gold and turquoise Hawaiian leis.

Our December meeting is held at a sister's home where we have a formal pitch-in dinner followed by our annual white elephant sock exchange. Holiday themed socks are stuffed with goodies and sisters pick their favorite based on the number assigned. Watch out for others who want to steal your socks!

It has become an annual tradition to celebrate St. Patrick's Day during our March meeting by dressing up in green, holiday-themed attire and eating similar colored snacks.

We continue with our social one-half hour before our meeting starts. Designated hostesses are responsible for providing a light snack and drinks. This gives us time to talk and get our greetings out of the way before the meeting starts. We're always excited to see and eat the goodies provided!

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: We awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to a local high school senior pursuing a degree to become a math teacher. He was a very inspirational individual, and we were honored to present his scholarship in front of his parents and our sisters.

During October and November, we rolled seven batches of cheeseballs! We hope you were able to enjoy one or two.

Gamma Theta donated most of our hospital equipment to St. Vincent De Paul

this year so they could use it as they see fit.

We were excited to initiate two new members this year and both of their names are Kelly! They have been excellent additions to our chapter.

#### GAMMA NU

Brownsburg, Indiana 22 Members Second Monday November 5, 1950

Slate of Officers: Samantha Smith, President; Glenda Kehl, Vice President; Cheri Kay, Recording Secretary; Leigh Crick, Corresponding Secretary; Taryn Mason, Treasurer; Samantha Beery, Conductress; Bette Yeager, Advisor.

Social Activities: As members of the Psi lota Xi Gamma Nu chapter, our commitment to fostering community engagement and supporting the arts, literature, and music has driven our activities throughout the year. Our collective efforts have not only enriched our lives but have also made a significant impact on the communities we serve. Gamma Nu kicked off our 2023-2024 year with a pitch-in dinner, which allowed our members to connect and join in fellowship. This year, one of our key service activities included a gift-wrapping event for Sheltering Wings, a nonprofit organization dedicated to aiding survivors of domestic violence. Our members gathered to wrap gifts, providing warmth and kindness to those overcoming difficult circumstances. This event was more than just wrapping gifts; it was about wrapping love and support around individuals who need it most, helping them thrive in adversity. This was a very worthwhile experience for all in attendance. Our social committee has been highly intentional this year and has organized activities for each meeting, including art and social projects. These activities included making grief hearts to provide to members who experience loss during the year, an art mosaic project, and collecting toiletries and non-perishable items for our local food pantry.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Our annual cheeseball rolling event marked another successful year with over 3,300 cheeseballs made and sold. This beloved fundraiser has become a cornerstone of our chapter's efforts to support local and national organizations dedicated to the arts, literature, and music. The funds raised are crucial in providing scholarships and financial support, fostering the next generation of artists, musicians, and

writers.

Through these diverse activities, our chapter continues to demonstrate the power of service and the impact of collective action. We look forward to another year of meaningful projects and invite all members and the community to join us in making a difference.

Together, we are stronger, and together, we can create a more connected and inspired world. This is our only fundraiser, but it allows us to give back to our community in Indiana. We are gratified that we can help so many people and organizations with these funds. Some of our long-standing donations go to sponsoring a camper to attend Hear Indiana Camp, Hoosier Art Salon, Indianapolis Orchestra, and St. Joe's Institute for the Deaf. We also were able to help other organizations that are dear to our hearts, such as Sheltering Wings (a safe haven for survivors of domestic violence) and Riley Hospital Cheer Guild, which provides comfort and cheer to patients and caregivers at Riley Hospital through outstanding programs like music therapy, dance/movement therapy and art carts. Some of our other donations include donations to our local Brownsburg community and schools. We also donated to our local library and funded two scholarships for high school seniors who are on a path toward the mission of our organization.

In a bid to (re)connect communities, families, and distant loved ones, we embraced the global initiative by Mural Mosaic. Our chapter participated in a unique art project to unite individual creativity into a larger, cohesive artwork. Each member painted a tile, contributing to a global mosaic symbolizing unity and collective effort—one painted tile, one tree, one community at a time. This project was a celebration of artistic expression and a powerful metaphor for how everyone's effort can contribute to a greater good, reconnecting our world through art (see photos below).

Chapter News: Our membership has been stable this year compared to the last. However, we are doing what we can to push to increase our size as it's essential for the future of our chapter. As we look ahead, the Psi lota Xi Gamma Nu chapter is excited to welcome new members who share our passion for service and community enrichment. Increasing our membership is crucial as it allows us to expand our reach and enhance our impact within the community.

We look forward to the 2024-2025 year for

Psi lota Xi, and Gamma Nu is proud to serve with so many great women.





Two of the tiles Gamma Nu, Brownsburg, IN, painted for the Mural Mosaic global initiative.

#### **GAMMA XI**

Crawfordsville, Indiana 15 Members First Monday June 3, 1951

Slate of Officers: Tonya Michael, President; Angie Griggs, Vice-President; Jennie Hesler, Advisor; Tamara Hemmerlein, Recording Secretary; Jennifer Slavens, Corresponding Secretary; Pam Karle, Treasurer; Julie Swick, Conductress

Social Activities: Our June meeting in 2023 took place in a local eatery, "Maxine's on Green." We enjoyed great food, fun conversation, and conducted important business, including installation of new officers and the initiation of a new member. When we reconvened in September, our primary focus became the preparation for and planning of the Indiana State Meeting with State President, Jennifer Hunter. In December, we enjoyed a "Secret Sister" gift exchange, yummy food, and much laughter in the home of one of our members.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Our primary fundraiser is our cheese ball sale, which took place before Thanksgiving in We again made around 1500 cheese balls and spreads for our happy customers. Our fundraising throughout the year pays for the Summer Speech Clinic, which has been a project for Gamma Xi since 1956. We also contribute to local art, music, and literary endeavors. This year we had the opportunity to fund a new literacy project called "Trail Tales." We paid for the cost of printing storyboards that were placed on a walking trail in Crawfordsville. Families continue to enjoy new stories as they walk together.

Chapter News: In April, we were pleased to have great attendance at our Indiana State Meeting in Crawfordsville. The weather was beautiful that day after several days of wind and rain. With the help of some other chapters, alumni

members, and family volunteers, we had what we feel was a successful meeting. We are looking forward to a somewhat less hectic, but still busy year in 2024-2025.



Gamma Xi, Crawfordsville, IN, preparing to host the 2024 Indiana Association Meeting.

#### **ZETA EPSILON**

Bargersville, Indiana 14 Members First Tuesday June 1, 1958

Slate of Officers: Judy Cox, President; Deb Smiley, Vice President; Mary Graham, Treasurer; Becky Meyer, Co-Treasurer; Rita Paris, Recording Secretary; Cindy Crafton, Corresponding Secretary; and Pam Weddle, Conductress.

Our officers have done an excellent job during the first of their two-year terms. Judy Cox selflessly and generously stepped up to serve as president at a time when we thought our chapter might have to fold. Our VP, Deb Smiley, brings experience and insight to our chapter. Our treasurer, Mary Graham, has moved to the northside, but continues the trek down for our monthly meetings and activities. She is amazingly detail oriented and keeps us on track. She works with co-treasurer Becky Meyer and the two of them have done the very difficult job of tracking and reporting the monies zipping in and out with fund-raising, dues, expenditures, etc.! Our recording secretary, Rita Paris, pitches in at a moment's notice and our corresponding secretary, Cindy Crafton, brings fresh ideas and fundraising potential to our group. Pam Weddle's role as conductress goes far beyond that title—she is our historian, public relations specialist, cardsender, gift-giver, community news contact, and an amazing decorator! She reminds us of the time-honored traditions that were in place when her mother helped initiate our chapter back in 1958.

Social Activities: The Zeta Epsilon chapter doesn't like to sit still! This past year we had a pool party at Cindy's beautiful new pool, our annual weenie roast at Elaine's, a Christmas party with a white elephant

exchange, fun meetings that included origami, trivia contests, and a personalized version of Sudoku (*PSI*doku)! We have had several Dine-to-Donate outings.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: We have been selling cheeseballs to our loyal fan base for over 30 years. Every year, we tweak the sales methods, but NEVER the recipe! Each year we think that NEXT year will be the perfect cheeseball season! We now use a catering company to use our recipe to mix, roll, and shape the balls, but we still package them and add the nuts ourselves.

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> brand new and verrrrrry profitable fundraiser did not involve cheese! One of our members, Cindy, is a flight attendant and earns airline vouchers by volunteering her time. She graciously donated the vouchers to use in our raffle. It was a very successful event! Thanks, Cindy!

We continue to support the Speech & Hearing, Art, Theatre, and Music departments at Center Grove High School. chapter provides an annual scholarship for a Center Grove senior planning to major in speech and hearing therapy, art, music, journalism, or other English-related careers. We were so happy when last year's scholarship winner came to one of our meetings and showed us her artwork!

We also continue to support the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra and attended several of their concerts this past year.

We enjoy a 50/50 raffle at each meeting! Becky, the co-treasurer, enjoys keeping us in suspense until the winner is notified!

It wouldn't be July without a trip to the Johnson County Fair volunteering for Gateway Services at the Lemonade Shakeup stand! It's hot, sticky, and great fun!

**Chapter News:** The Zeta Epsilon Chapter continues its annual traditions and activities as a group of women focused on similar goals and beliefs. But, just like the



Zeta Epsilon, Bargersville, IN, met for their annual Christmas dinner and white elephant gift exchange.

effects of Ozempic, our chapter is slimming down. The sad reality is that we continue to lose members each year to other priorities. But we are a resilient group and will continue on!

#### ETA DELTA

Carmel, Indiana 22 Members Third Wednesday August 20, 1966

Slate of Officers: Veronica Werth, President; Denise Henshaw, Vice President; Theresa Green, Corresponding Secretary; Johnna Lane, Recording Secretary; Kristen Bonwell, Treasurer; Lisa Pierce Conductress; Liz Bowman, Advisor.

**Social Activities:** Gail Paramour held a Christmas party at her home; chapter members participated in a White Elephant Gift Exchange.

Eta Delta held a June Salad Supper at Gail Paramour's home and where welcomed visitors Sue McClure prospective member, WHAM We Have All Music from Carmel Highschool for our music project; our Carmel High School Scholarship Winner Sara Chen present her portfolio of work. Eta Delta had a book drive and donated to the Hoosier Youth Challenge Academy's library Knightstown, Indiana. Lunch Bunch with older chapter members meet at noon on the Thursday after each chapter meeting.

Five chapter members attended National Convention 'Growing with Our Sisters Since 1897 at Evansville, Indiana in June 2023, where members had a great time with the growing theme plus staffing a chapter sales table at the event. Liz Bowman and Veronica Werth were our delegates. The chapter donated a basket to the PNP Raffle themed for 'Gardening with our Mothers and our Daughters'. Four members attended Indiana State Meeting 'Piecing PIX Together' hosted by Gamma Xi, Crawfordsville, Indiana in Apr 2024 and staffed a chapter sales table at the event. Veronice Werth and Polly Edmunson were our delegates

Chapter members met in November at the *Board and Brush Creative Studio* in Noblesville to paint personalized signs and planters, while enjoying camaraderie, wine, popcorn, and Eta Delta cheeseballs.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Our Cheeseball Chair Pam Elliot and chapter members label containers, clean buckets, and completed the cheeseball orders at Our Lady of Mount Carmel School in November. We packaged and delivered



Eta Delta, Carmel, IN, pose for a group photo with their West Central District Officer, Missy Cooper.

1600 cheeseballs to raise money for our philanthropic projects. In September and October chapter members sold 250 football books and raised money for philanthropic projects; Eta Delta chapter members had Terri Lynn Nuts sales this year; Eta Delta funded a Carmel High school Art Scholarship. Our Annual Holiday Philanthropy Project: collecting donations for Laundry and More so that families in the city of Lawrence can wash their clothes and bedding for free each Tuesday. Laundry supplies and machine payment are provided. Connection to community resources such as food, job training, clothes, and reading materials is also available. through Servants of Christ Lutheran Church, Indianapolis, Indiana. Our chapter donation was generously doubled by Glick Philanthropies.

Polly Admundson and the Project Proposal Committee organized chapter philanthropic endeavors. Eta Delta gave a check to We Have All Music, WHAM, a nonprofit group started by a group of students at Carmel High School in September of 2021 whose mission is to give high school musicians opportunities outside of school to perform in professional venues which has developed into a seventy-musician orchestra was invited to our June Salad Supper and publicized the event in Carmel Current. Two members attended Hoosier Art Salon in August, to which Eta Delta donated in chapter funds. Three members toured Brooks Place, to which the chapter donated funds for drawing/writing journals with our logo on it for their Camp Healing Tree, an opportunity for grieving youth ages 7-17 to be with peers who have also experienced the death of someone close to them. Eta Delta members donated literature and materials to Hoosier Youth Challenge Academy Library and funded a Carmel High School Art Scholarship.

Chapter News: This year, we lost our

sorority sister Barbara Ann Fearnow. In April 2023 our chapter began an In Memoriam project. It is a literacy project of a Little Lending Library in Broad Ripple, Indiana in Barbara's honor. Donations for this project were received in the amount of \$2000. Caring Center in Lebanon, Indiana donated 25 children's books to Barb Fearnow's memorial lending library in December. In October, our special guest was our District Officer Missy Cooper.

Chapter Historian Theresa Green is compiling a scrapbook for our chapter's upcoming 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Our chapter project flyers were updated and printed for handing out with our cheeseballs.

The chapter received our order for a set of Officer Stoles for Initiation Ceremonies. We changed our chapter email to <a href="mailto:etadeltapix@gmail.com">etadeltapix@gmail.com</a> for Carmel Clubs and Other Organizations website. Our Publicity Committee updated our chapter pamphlet, that includes our annual philanthropy initiatives. Chapter members send out this pamphlet with our Cheeseball Fundraiser orders and to inform prospective members and the public.

#### ETA LAMBDA

Beech Grove, Indiana 11 Members Second Monday June 7, 1968

**Slate of Officers:** Rici Petrecca, President; Alicia Berg, Vice President/Corresponding Secretary/Recording Secretary; Sheila Smith, Treasurer/Conductress.

Social Activities: After we fell into the favored pattern of meeting in person at a member's house, our chapter has now started meeting again at the town's community center. There we catch up with each other's lives and plan our fundraisers and activities for the year.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Eta Lambda enjoyed another year of success with our annual cheeseball fundraiser. In October, with our biggest fundraiser, we created and sold over 1888 cheeseballs. We also continued our other fundraisers of selling Almond Cakes and Rada Knives and Cutlery throughout the entire year. All our fundraising helps us contribute money to three different Food Pantries. We also contribute to local kids bowling teams and summer camps, the school district's art, music, and English/literacy programs and teachers' supply closets. Last, we help fund scholarships to individuals that are studying for careers that fall into our mission categories of Art, Music, Speech & Hearing.

Chapter News: Our slate of officers continue to keep their roles from the past year. We have had some of our past Sisters "dropping by" our fundraisers, helping our chapter achieve our goals. We celebrated a sister of 20 years getting married. And sadly, we lost a sister as a Fallen Petal.

#### THETA PSI

Bethany, Illinois 14 Members Third Monday November 30, 1975

Slate of Officers: Brandi Kesterson, President; Kala Cesar, Vice President; Stephanie Barding, Recording Secretary; Jennifer Crowder, Treasurer; Tara Underwood, Conductress; Rita Seelow, Advisor.

Socials Activities: What a fun year we have had with all our socials! Sister, Carolyn Rawlings has done an AWESOME job of coordinating the following events: A Christmas Carol musical performance was enjoyed as we watched Ebenezer Scrooge travel through time at The Little Theatre on the Square in Sullivan. We enjoyed Mexican meals, and we celebrated our first Valentine's Dinner, with Valentine's cards exchanged. It was the BEST night, plus the food was great. Our next meal out will be at a Fujiyama restaurant while we enjoy the chef's show!

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Our ole reliable, Bessie Bingo during our Fourth of July Celebration was a success with Bessie dropping her chip on the lucky spot and the winner donated some of the money to a local family who needed assistance with some work on their home. Rolling on to Cheeseball Marathon we set another time record with getting the cheese mixed and the cafeteria cleaned by 8:00 p.m. Back at

it Saturday morning and we were out by noon!!! Next, we participated in a fall townwide rummage sale and our first one was considered a success, but the best part is we all got rid of some things that were taking up space in our homes! We also hosted an American Red Cross Blood Drive, and we met our goal of donors! We currently are selling ferns and geraniums for Mother's Day, all the money raised from all of these will go back to our local schools, public libraries, and a scholarship to a graduating senior.

**Chapter News:** We will initiate our newest sister, Dee Johnson in April, and our Psi Ote of the Year award to Kala Cesar for her ideas, dedication and hard work. She was surprised!



Theta Psi, Bethany, IN, met for Valentine's Day dinner and card exchange.

#### **IOTA THETA**

Armstrong, Illinois 16 Members Second Sunday December 14, 1980

Slate of Officers: Kathy Burr, President; Marlana Ackerman, Vice-President; Joni O'Banion, Recording Secretary; Pam Boen, Corresponding Secretary; Susie Bird, Treasurer; and Patsy Hambleton, Conductress.

Social Activities: Our social activities usually include food, with meetings planned around "where" can we eat. Italian, Pizza, Wine & Cheese, Steak, and a "Galentine" Brunch to name a few. A few ladies represented lota Theta by participating in the Potomac Grade School's Trunk or Treat, passing out candy to the kids.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: The fundraiser that is loved by all is our Cheeseballs, which enables us to fulfill grant requests. This year we received 12 grant requests from 5 schools totaling \$3,260.71. Our sisters rang bells in support of The Salvation Army, which has become an annual favorite. We sold raffle

tickets to support the purchase of books to directly benefit schools to promote literacy and educational enrichment. An "Eggstra" fun fundraiser to fill dozens of eggs for Easter was another way we raised money. Our chapter's sponsorship of the Best in Show Award to the Vermilion Valley Conference Art Show has become an annual priority for us. A contribution was also made to the long-term national project - Hear Indiana. The Literature/ Literary Award of \$1,000.00 lota Theta received was donated to Books from Brek. a local nonprofit organization created in memory of Brek Neiswender, whose love of books started at a very young age. We continue to look for new ways to help our community with enrichment in the areas we support and always enjoy those annual donations we provide.

We are excited to add a new member to lota Theta - Emily Remington, a friend, now a sister. Looking forward, we hope to continue on the path that leads us to help those less fortunate and continue to be of good cheer with those around us.



lota Theta, Armstrong, IL, handed out candy at the Potomac Grade School's Trunk or Treat.

#### **IOTA SIGMA**

St. Joseph, Illinois 10 Members First Tuesday June 6, 2004

State of Officers: Ramona Simpson PNP, President; Kathy Lyons, Vice-President; Susan McKinney, Treasurer; Rose Franzen, Secretary; Rita McCannon, Conductress; and Debbie Garthwait, Advisor.

Social Activities: Most meetings were held in person but during the winter we met via Zoom. Secret Sisters were remembered at each meeting and Happy Bucks were shared throughout the year. We had a pound auction resulting in funds added to our general fund. It's amazing how expensive toilet tissue is when it



Iota Sigma, St. Joseph, IL, awarded teachers at St. Joseph Middle School grant money for enrichment of their classrooms. The Librarian was also given a grant for a special Native American Project.

weighs a pound!! Our White Elephant Sale at a meeting is always a hit too. Christmas brought our Christmas Party at Geschenk Coffee and Tea Haus when we played Psi Ote Bingo. We also enjoyed our annual Cookie Exchange. We had a Fall gettogether with Theta Psi, Bethany, where members from both chapters enjoyed catching up exchanging ideas for the coming year over lunch.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: One of our highlights is to participate in the St. Joseph Fall Festival Parade. Instead of the typical candy being thrown we threw out approximately 500 "positive thinking" pencils to the parade onlookers.

We made and filled 200 Christmas Stockings for Fair Hope's Children's Ministry. In addition, we assembled bags of books to be given to each family during the month of March.

We have supported the summer reading program at the Swearingen St. Joseph Public Library since we were chartered. In addition to monetary support, we volunteer to help with the crafts and Live Action Candyland where some of our members were the characters in the game. Our members are from several communities, so we also support the Homer and Paxton Libraries Summer Reading Programs monetarily.

Several members volunteered at a local music recital.

This is the first year we did grants for our projects. Teachers at the St. Joseph Middle School were awarded grants for enrichment of their classrooms and the Librarian was given a grant for a special Native American Project.

Emmy Daniels was the recipient of our support as she is a music student in New York City and from our local area.

Cheese spread was one of our main fundraisers. Our Vice President, Kathy Lyons designed the Convention Charm which we sold at National Convention, and which will be sold again in 2024.

**Chapter News:** We continue to support our two Little Free Libraries.

#### **IOTA TAU**

Indianapolis, Indiana 9 Members Second Monday June 15, 2006

State of Officers: Marty, Krug, President; Connie Bailey, Advisor/Conductress; Debra Gladson, Recording Secretary; Connie Bailey, Corresponding Secretary; Lyn Burton, Treasurer.

Social Activities: Before breaking for the summer, our June 2023 dinner meeting was held at the Hirosaki Japanese Restaurant in Avon, IN, where we sat around the hibachi grill. We were entertained by the chef preparing our food in front of us. We exchanged gifts with our Secret Sister and drew names for our new 2023-24 Secret Sister, agreeing to give gifts three (3) times during the year: Christmas, Easter and Reveal Day at our June Dinner in 2024. Cards may be sent anytime.

Our meetings were varied and always fun. In September, the Encouragement Button Award presented to lota Tau at the 2023 National Convention was passed around for everyone to see. The L S Ayres Tearoom



lota Tau, Indianapolis, IN, donated items to Indianapolis based Seeds of Hope, Holy Family Shelter, and The Julian Center.

at the Indiana State Museum was the location for our December meeting and lunch, followed by a visit to the museum by some members. Beginning our meetings at 11:00 a.m. allows many of us to go out for lunch following the meetings. (Can you tell that we love to eat?!?!?! And we thoroughly enjoy each other's company with lots of chatter and laughter!) In January we sat in a circle holding the White Elephant gift that we each brought, and passed the gifts to the right or left, as a story being read instructed - which brought a lot of laughter and nice gifts, even if they were White Elephants! After the February meeting, our "Things That Hold Things" Auction brought in \$290 by our generous sisters. Marty, our auctioneer, kept us laughing and the bids

rising. Prior to the beginning of the May meeting, we will enjoy a pitch-in brunch. Following many of our meetings, a sister has led us in fun games or making an art project, such as in October when we made cardboard Jack-O-Lantern faces or Autumn Wreaths. We included these with items we collected for the Holy Family Shelter.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Other than the auction after the February meeting, selling items at the PIX conventions and the RaiseRight Program. our only other fundraiser is making and selling cheeseballs in November. The local organizations that we support are Hear Indiana, St Joseph School for the Deaf, Riley Hospital Art Program, Arts for Learning, Brightlane Learning (formerly School on Wheels), Metro Youth Orchestra, Indianapolis Children's Choir, and New Horizon Band. We gave monetary donations to Seeds of Hope and The Julian Center, as well as personal items needed by their residents. We also donated a \$50 "Pamper Yourself Raffle Basket" to the Indiana State Convention and a framed \$50 bill to the National Convention.

Chapter News: lota Tau sisters continue to enjoy spending time together and give tremendous support to each other. Since our membership is small, we do not set up official committees, but all work well together on ideas and projects. Someone always offers to do what is needed or assists another sister to accomplish our endeavors. We look forward to helping those less fortunate in the 2024-25 year.

#### **Helicon Presentation**

The Helicon, the official publication of Psi Iota Xi, documents the events of each National President's year in office. The National Editor has the honor of presenting the National Advisor with the Helicon documenting her year as Psi Iota Xi National President.

Terri Resler, National Editor, presented Maureen "Mo" Dix, National Advisor, with her copy of the Helicon in November 2023.



#### **IOTA UPSILON**

Virtual 11 Members First Saturday July 15, 2017

Slate of Officers: Beatrice Pfaff, President; Sandi Mitchem, Vice President; Ronda Jo Bilz, Recording/Correspondence Secretary; Vacant, Treasurer; Wanda Kirby, Conductress; Barbie Harris, Historian; Natalie Hendrix-Evans, Publicity; Sara Hadlock, Publicity.

lota Upsilon sisters have been very busy with our individual families' situations and have found it difficult to do fundraising being spread across several states. We are regrouping and electing a fundraising chairperson to head up what we hope to be a profitable event for 2025!

Blessings to all our Psi lota Xi sisters for keeping the faith and keeping the light burning!



# OUTHEAST DISTRICT

Total Community Outreach \$23,346.17
Total Speech and Hearing \$41,462.17
Total Music \$16,790.00
Total Fine Arts \$7,631.00
Total Literature/Literacy \$17,900.60

15

Chapters

253 Members

## SOUTHEAST DISTRICT CHAPTERS: Epsilon, Columbus, IN ...... 1904 Iota, Rushville, IN...... 1908 Sigma, Greensburg, IN ...... 1917 Upsilon, Greenfield, IN...... 1920 Alpha Theta, Charlestown, IN ..... 1923 Alpha Omega, North Vernon, IN ... 1928 Beta Sigma, Austin, IN...... 1935 Beta Phi, Shelbyville, IN ...... 1938 Zeta Iota, Louisville, KY ...... 1946 Zeta Lambda, Connersville, IN ..... 1959 Zeta Xi, Madison, IN ...... 1960 Theta Tau, Milroy, IN ...... 1964 Theta Nu, Lexington, KY...... 1972-2024 Iota Phi, Clarksburg, IN ...... 2019 lota Chi, LaGrange, KY...... 2019

Wow! Not sure what else to say. This year has flown. I have grown so much with my sisters. Doing chapter visits is a great way to learn from others and putting faces to the names. All the small towns showing off their glory. If you want to experience other chapters, please contact me. Would love to have you ride along.

We have all faced challenges over this past year, but that makes us stronger. After reading your PCR's we have grown and show great support to our communities, building sisterhood in all we do.

Southeast District has 15 chapters that have been very busy spreading love within their town. Some activities reported are Cheeseballs, Thrift Stores, Cookie sells, Ice Cream sells, setting up in Sales Rooms at State and National Meetings. Every meeting I hear more about how we are spreading our word with Little Free Libraries, what a great thing to build on. While doing these projects we also meet prospective new members. One chapter gained a new member because of the Speech and Hearing Clinic her child was a part of. She decided to give back to those that helped her. Building membership helps to strengthen our bond to each other and grow.



## **Carol Good** SOUTHEAST DISTRICT OFFICER Alpha Theta, Charlestown, IN

I know each chapter has similar stories to tell.

Celebration shoutout to my chapter, Alpha Theta, Charlestown, who just celebrated 100 years. What an accomplishment. On the other hand, I am sadden with the closing of Theta Nu Lexington, Kentucky, these lovely ladies will be truly missed. Please share any celebrations with me as well. I would love to join you.

Let's get the New Year started.

Carol Good Southeast District Officer Alpha Theta, Charlestown, IN

#### **EPSILON**

Columbus, Indiana 36 Members First Tuesday June 10, 1904

Slate of Officers: Cheryl Miles-Vieth, President; Michelle Spear, First VP of Programming; Linda Heldt, Joni Shaw, & Pat Wettschurack, Second VP/Thrift Shop; Sian Goldsmith, Recording & Corresponding Secretary; Carolyn Peterson, Philanthropic Treasurer; Mary Ann Ransdell, General Fund Treasurer; Michelle Spear, Adviser.

Charitable Activities: We enjoy raising money from the sales at our Thrift Shop. Members volunteer to sort through donations, stock shelves, manage sales, and clean. Our team posts pictures of items in the store on Facebook page. Many of our customers check that page for items they might want. We now often have 20 or more people in line before we even open the door! Our regular customers brighten our day when they arrive excited to see what is new in the shop. One of our regulars told us she comes to the store because it brings joy to her even if she doesn't buy anything (we do have the friendliest staff with the brightest smiles). We have been able to support summer school speech & language programming for students with special needs along with supplying books, materials, and other supplies to educators throughout the area. We had the pleasure of hearing 3 of our music scholarship recipients perform at our February meeting. All of this was made possible through the hard work of our members in keeping the Thrift Store alive and thriving. Our December meeting continues to put the "fun" in fundraising with our auction that benefits the Shop with a Cop and Cheer Fund programs. The gloves come off when competing bids start to fly! This year we broke a record for the amount donated to the organizations. We donated money to help in the saving of one of the oldest theaters in the state, The Crump. The venue is becoming a place for local talent to showcase their art.

Social Activities: We are fortunate to have a team who schedules programming for our meetings throughout the year. This past year we had guest speakers on the topics of being a writer and storyteller, living abroad, and designing flower baskets. The speakers are well-received and enjoyed. The quiz night was such a hit last year that it returned. We always end our year with a pitch-in, so we have more of a chance to socialize after the meeting.

Chapter News: We are so excited to share

that we have welcomed three more new members to our chapter this year! While we did much needed work on the outside of our shop last year, this year we had the inside painted which brightened the place and our outlook when working. We are happy to announce that our thrift shop will begin having Narcan available for emergency purposes. We had an incident of someone who appeared to be on drugs. Our staff remained calm and called for help. That is when we realized it might be a good idea to have Narcan on the premises to help someone in need.

#### IOTA

Rushville, Indiana 13 Members Second Monday December 30, 1908

In addition to welcoming 4 new members this year, our chapter had many individual service hours logged in our community. We were able to expand our hearing aid program, for low income seniors. We continue to support the town summer concert series, our county library summer reading program, the hearing garden in the nature center, and Camp About Face.

#### **SIGMA**

Greensburg, Indiana 14 Members First Monday 1917

Slate of Officers: Kim Gerrian and Barbie Brown, President & Advisor; Casey Hershberger, Vice President; Jordan Rettig, Recording Secretary; Becky Hamilton, Treasurer; Paula Sibbitt, Conductress.

**Social Activities:** At the beginning of September, we kicked off our year with a meeting and fellowship at a member's house and celebrated National Founder Day for our sorority 126 years old!!

In October we visited and worked on the social event for Christmas with invitations and came together at one of our new meeting spots, REMC.

In December we celebrated Christmas at the Senior Center with a wonderful catered meal by a retired member's son Josh Shields with help from his brother Jake. Desserts were homemade. We enjoyed visiting and eating great food.

In January we celebrated with each other at the local coffee shop for our meeting to visit and enjoy yummy treats and drinks. A member's baby visited for snuggles! In April, we welcomed 2 new members to our chapter!! Nice meeting and initiation at a member's home.

In May, we enjoyed pizza and fellowship at our local pizza king and discussed new opportunities for fundraisers for the future.

Lastly, in June we will visit with each other at the local greenhouse The Rustic Petal to build flower arrangements and discuss the new ideas for fundraisers.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Our big Fundraisers of the year were in November for Fudge and Cheeseball sales and April/ May for flower sales. Thanks so much from the support of Barbie Brown and Kim Crawley for the help with the sales! Without their guidance, we would not be as successful as we are! Also, throughout the year, our legacy college and cheer baskets were put together and delivered. Our communication board was installed this year at the local inclusion park! It was a great success and perfect for our kids affected with speech and hearing deficits. We donated monies to several local charities such as Greensburg band, musicals, and scholarships.

Chapter News: We initiated 2 new members this year! Our members celebrated births of grandchildren along with some health concerns too. Together we survived it all and we look forward to the 2024-2025 year.

#### **UPSILON**

Greenfield, Indiana 23 Members First Monday April 2, 1920

State of Officers: Deidre Low, President; Stacey Stephenson, Advisor; Shelby McMaster, Recording Secretary; Laura Fletcher, Corresponding Secretary; Cheryl Overman, Treasurer; Jennifer Johnston, Conductress.

Social Activities: The Upsilon chapter kicked off this year with a picnic in August at the home of Stacey Stephenson in Greenfield. We held an auction of homemade items to boost our general fund. Mickie Hansen served as the expert auctioneer! In September, we participated in the Volunteer Fair at the Community Foundation of Hancock County to recruit perspective members. In the fall, several of our members carved and decorated pumpkins for the Festival of Jack-o-Lanterns in the James Whitcomb Riley Boyhood Home gardens. Also in the fall, our chapter member Kathy Jutte published her memoir, and our chapter hosted a

book signing event at the Sugar Creek branch of the Hancock Co. Public Library in New Palestine. We gathered for a Christmas party where we shared a meal, completed a craft, played games, and participated in a book gift exchange. We had a great anniversary dinner in April celebrating our chapter's 104<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a beautiful and delicious charcuterie spread!

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: This was a busy year for our chapter with many exciting opportunities! The summer Speech and Hearing Clinics are our largest philanthropic projects of the year and are fully funded by the Upsilon chapter. We added a second clinic this year! Any Hancock County child who needs extra therapy is welcome to participate. We held clinics in Greenfield and New Palestine in 2023. We adopted a local family at Christmas time and provided gifts for all the family members. Our chapter supports three county high school band and theater departments and five elementary school libraries. Additionally, we support local charities Bentley's Buddies, Friends of the Theater, and KidsPlay; fund Riley Festival Art Awards: and provide funding to supplement the cost for hearing aids for four children in our community. In addition to our annual high school scholarship award of \$1,000, we added two new projects for continuing education. We introduced a new multi-year scholarship called the Delores Fleming Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship will follow one student as she pursues her degree in Speech & Language Pathology at Purdue University. We also started providing up to \$100 of continuing education reimbursement to local educators and practitioners in Psi Ote interest areas; we have awarded nearly \$300 so far! Our major ongoing fundraisers were cheeseballs, hanging baskets, and mums. We sold Christmas greenery. Sechler's pickles, and cake pans, and we hosted dine-to-donate nights at local restaurants. We also held an online purse raffle in April.



Carolyn Coffine of Upsilon, Greenfield, IN, received her 20 year honorary pin from Mickie Hansen.

Chapter News: We welcomed three new members into our chapter this year! Annie Hensley and Tecia Pruitt initiated in the summer, and Lisa Bowling initiated in the fall. We welcomed back member Kara Wetzel. We are so excited to have them in the sisterhood! Membership milestones: Carolyn Coffin (20 years), Cori Shambaugh (25 years), and Mickie Hansen (30 years). Mickie Hansen was named the Upsilon chapter's Psi Ote of the Year for 2023-24.

#### **ALPHA THETA**

Charlestown, Indiana 23 Members First Tuesday December 1, 1923

Slate of Officers: Marianne Smith, President; Karen Robinson, Vice President; Doreen Graves, Advisor; Sarah Good, Recording Secretary; Jennie Crismore, Corresponding Secretary; Tina Bradshaw, Treasurer; Jan Boyer, Conductress.

Social Activities: This was a very special year for our chapter as it marked the major milestone of our chapter's 100th Anniversary! Our planning started at our May meeting where we enjoyed a special Derby themed social hour arranged with white tablecloths, rose centerpieces, and special refreshments. Roll call was a fun game where members used a key to make up their own racehorse's name and a prize for the best Derby hat was awarded. At this meeting we formed a committee to organize special 100th anniversary celebration activities that incorporated community engagement, fundraising, and social activities. In June our members again brought our scoops and dished up ice cream at the Charlestown Founders week gospel sing, an event Alpha Theta has supported for the last three years. Then in late November, our 100th marquee event, a Mosaic Arts Expo. was held at the historic Charlestown Venro that showcased local musicians, artists, and authors that performed and shared their talent with the

community. This was a great opportunity to get to know the local artist scene and do a little Christmas shopping while enjoying local school chorus performances, as well as local gifted musical acts. A PowerPoint presentation with pictures of our chapter members over the years was created and shown throughout the evening. The students particularly enjoyed this event as the first community-wide performance since the covid shut down. Proclamation Day at Town Hall was the highlight of the anniversary celebrations where Mayor Treva Hodges declared the month of December 2023 as Psi lota Xi month in Charlestown. After proclamation. members enjoyed а reception hosted by the city and reminisced over refreshments with the mayor. Alpha Theta concluded 2023 social activities at our annual Christmas party. which included a delicious menu of holiday food provided by the planning committee. Winter is less busy as several of our members travel to escape the colder months, and this gives us all a time to slow down. We closed out our sorority year with a Spring party in April, a reprised Derby theme dinner, but this time included husbands and prospective members to thank them for the hard work making our 100th Anniversary year so special.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: We kicked off 2023 fundraising with our annual fall mum sale and added a new greeting card box sale, both of which were well received. At the Mosaic Arts Expo we sold commemorative 100th anniversary calendars and light up snowflake wands printed with the Psi Iota Xi logo, as the Expo coincided with Charlestown's Christmas light up night. Our annual cheeseball sales continue to be a big success with this year raising more than any previous year. In addition, our members took turns cooking for four of the local Lions Club meetings throughout the year. Holiday decor and special treat auctions continue to be popular at our meetings and social events and this year



The City of Charlestown, IN, recognized the 100-year anniversary of Alpha Theta by proclaiming the month of December as Psi Iota Xi month.

we did three, one at our Fall meeting and then at both the Christmas and Spring parties. This banner year of fundraising allowed Alpha Theta to contribute generously to provide a scholarship award, supplemental funding for the local county and school libraries, the Scallywags high school chorus group, the high school theater, Clark County 4-H Jr Leaders, and to Ensembles the non-profit in town that focuses on musical and visual art. This year for the first time our chapter contributed to a special after prom event for the Charlestown high school students.

Chapter News: We initiated one new member, Nancy Barnard, and sadly lost an honorary member, Virginia Bushau, who passed away this year. We continue to pass the blessings jar at each meeting and have shared births, trips, time with our families, our gardens, and all the wonderful gifts from God our chapter is so thankful to have received for over 100 years!

#### **ALPHA OMEGA**

North Vernon, Indiana 23 Members First Monday 1928

State of Officers: Jenifer Stanley, President; Peggy Day, Vice President; Deanna Howard, Recording Secretary and Conductress; Judy Watts, Corresponding Secretary; Kim Earl, Treasurer; Angie Kelley, Advisor.

Our chapter welcomed 7 new members. Three members requested alumni status and one requested honorary retired status.

After retiring The Bunny Breakfast fundraiser, we replaced it with the first (hopefully annual) Purse Auction. Eighty tickets sold out within a week and the event raised more than \$5,000. The committee did a fabulous job and will now be contemplating finding a bigger location for next year's event. Old habits die hard, as shown by a long time donator who provided a child's bike for a prize. Never daunted, we incorporated it into the Purse Auction bidding and President Jen Stanley even increased the value by receiving additional bids if she would ride the bike to its rightful owner. And she complied.

Successful fundraising allowed our chapter to increase scholarship monies to \$6,000 awarded to 20 graduating high school seniors.

Our annual Anniversary dinner celebrated 96 years along with celebrating Peggy Day as a 53-year member, Deanna Howard as a

40-year member, and Elaine Leahigh as a 50-year member!

Perfect Attendance for the year was acknowledged for 5 dedicated members: Kay Bloemer, Peggy Day, Kim Earl, Elaine Leahigh, and Jen Stanley. We also initiated 4 new members and will initiate 3 more in May who couldn't attend. A lovely dinner was provided by Stream Cliff Farms followed by games, fellowship and door prizes.



Alpha Omega, North Vernon, IN, celebrated 96-years of sisterhood this year!

#### **BETA SIGMA**

Austin, Indiana 24 Members First Monday May 1935

Slate of officers: Bev Bagwell, President; Celesta Satterwhite, Vice President; Danelle Gonzalez, Recording Secretary; Tammy Treadway, Corresponding Secretary; Janie Alexander, Treasurer; Sherry McNelly, Conductress.

Social Activities: In December, we had our winter social. Our members selected wooden ornaments to paint and decorate and we had a painting party, complete with refreshments, prizes and had a great time socializing with each other. Our sorority prides itself on supporting local businesses. We have a new owner of our local flower shop, and, in April of 2024, we met for our spring social and had her join us and guide our members in making our own beautiful spring wreaths. We enjoyed great food and one another's company.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Selling homemade ice cream is a long standing fundraiser for our chapter. Thanks to great weather and a huge crowd, we had a profitable night selling our ice cream at the Austin Fireworks celebration. This year marked our second year to make and sell cheeseballs and we enjoyed great success with cheeseballs sales. Through money

raised with both endeavors, we were able to make generous donations to some worthy local groups, including Austin High School Band, Austin High School Show Choir, Austin Beautification Committee. and the Austin Elementary literacy night, to name a few. We also provided \$500.00 scholarships to two very deserving seniors at our local high school. Our chapter donated our time by helping Austin schools distribute warm coats and shoes to students in the fall of 2023. On top of monetary donations, we volunteered our time to Austin Beautification Committee and helped decorate areas of town for fall and again at Christmas. In spring, we helped plant and maintain large flowerpots throughout the city. We also enjoyed visiting our local nursing home where we enjoyed playing Bingo with residents, complete with prizes.

**Chapter News:** We were saddened by the death of two of our sisters, Eileen Everitt and Shirley Deaton.

#### **BETA PHI**

Shelbyville, Indiana 17 Members First Tuesday January 14, 1938

Slate of Officers: Kim Wickizer, President; Paula Chappelow, Vice-President; Lori Powell, Treasurer; Kim Borton, Corresponding Secretary; Dawn Branson, Recording Secretary; Anita Johnson, Advisor and Conductress.

Social Activities: Our social activities included a July 2023 picnic at Lake Santee for members and their families. We also enjoyed a holiday meal and gift exchange at the home of one of our members in December 2023. Members also enjoyed a purse bingo event.

Charitable Events/Fundraiser: During November through December members, scouting volunteers, and spouses work together to produce our fundraiser of cheeseballs. The cheeseballs are sold in the community by pre-order and the Gift and Hobby Show that is held annually in November at Shelbyville Middle School.

The profits made from our cheeseball sales allowed us to support music, arts, and literature in Shelby County along with supporting speech and hearing. In arts and literature, we contributed funds to donate to local schools to purchase Madame C. J. Walker and Dolly Parton biographies for their libraries. Speech and Hearing remains our biggest contribution. We

continue to fully fund the Speech and Hearing Clinic at a local elementary school in the summer. We also sponsor an individual to attend the Hear Indiana Listening and Spoken Language Camp. We continue to offer scholarship funds to a local college junior or senior pursuing a degree in Speech and Hearing.

In addition, our chapter continues to provide a book with our chapter label inside to each newborn in the local hospital to show parents we care about their child's literacy and encourage the love of reading for newborns.

Chapter News: We were proud to initiate three new members this year. In this past year there were members who suffered losses and celebrated family joys. We as members ended the 2023-2024 year as strong and dedicated to serving our community in support of Music, Arts, and Literature.

#### ZETA IOTA

Louisville, Kentucky 14 Members First Monday March 8, 1959

As Zeta lota chapter reflects on this past year, we wanted to focus on our National Convention theme - Friendship, Love, and Loyalty, and how that has played a part in what we do. In simple words, friendship is a close relationship between two or more people who care about and support one another. During the past year, our sisters enjoyed our special friendship by spending time together during monthly meetings, hosting social events, and just checking in with one another. Celebrating new grandbabies and learning that one of our sisters was purchasing her first home is just a sample of what we shared. We cannot forget the most enjoyable bonding time is when we are making cheeseballs!

In December, we enjoyed a dinner outing that included a holiday gift exchange that was enjoyed by all. We also had a great time painting pottery at Louisville Stoneware and had a wonderful lunch at Paristown. We held one of our monthly meetings at the Corner Café and enjoyed a nice dinner.

Love is a bond that often involves understanding each other's core values, beliefs, and life goals. Many of our Zeta lota sisters have been dealing with health issues this past year. True love for our sisters is shown in many ways. It could be just picking up the phone, dropping a card

in the mail, or sending a text or email. We find ways to stay connected and share updates at the end of each meeting to stay in touch with what's going on. If a sister needs some extra assistance, our chapter is ready to step up and help when or where needed.

Loyalty means being there for someone through highs and lows and staying by their side. Loyalty involves accepting and loving someone for who they are. This is the "true" meaning of our amazing organization. All our sisters are very special women who care for others and want to make a difference in the world. This is why each one of us is involved today to celebrate our friendship, love, and loyalty to Psi lota Xi.

Our chapter was fortunate to find a new non-profit group that needed some extra support. Hildegard House is Kentucky's first and only comfort care home. Through support from the community and help of many volunteers, they provide a home and compassionate care for individuals at the end of life who have no home or loved ones to care for them. It's so hard to think of someone coming to the end of life and not having the support they may need. Our chapter was able to review their wish list to help purchase items in need to operate their homes. Examples of needed items are cleaning supplies, food for the pantry, basic bathroom items, snacks for volunteers, and laundry supplies. During our holiday social in December, we collected items to donate and voted to support them with a donation. This is truly our organization's purpose and Zeta lota is blessed with special sisters.

As we rounded out the year, we awarded three college students with scholarships. We continually review the budget to see how we can continue to make a difference in the community and/or outreach projects.

Zeta lota celebrates 65 years of service this year and we look forward to many more. Thank you to all Zeta lota sisters for making us proud and supporting the mission and vision of Psi lota Xi. A special thank you and congratulations again to Lara Hagan for being our chapter's Psi Ote of the Year!

#### ZETA LAMBDA

Connersville, Indiana 8 Members One Monday per month September 27, 1959

Sunday, May 5, 2024, was a perfect spring

day! Members of Zeta Lambda chapter utilized it to the fullest. From early morning to mid-afternoon, a strong cohort of members and assisting family members were on hand to provide pick-up service to our many long-term customers who had pre-purchased hanging baskets, individual geranium plants, and \$25 gift cards. Selling premium plants in the spring from nearby Becker's Greenhouse in Cambridge City continues to be the one and only fundraiser for the chapter. Sales have remained about the same since COVID. We would welcome more revenue but are pleased to be able to stay steady. Thanks to the faithfulness of Treasurer Lisa Hazelrigg and hostess Joanne Guttman, orders and delivery proceeds smoothly. It was good to be together and have uninterrupted time to visit with each other and catch up on happenings that can too easily get overlooked during the Psi Iota Xi

In a concentrated effort to have more social events, we ventured to Indianapolis for a Saturday evening performance at Beef and Boards Dinner Theatre of "Menopause, the Musical." Everyone enjoyed the fellowship, the show, and the cooperative weather. In the spring, we journeyed to lunch at the century old Copper Kettle Inn Restaurant in Morristown. We hope to be able to do more of these out of the ordinary and enjoyable activities in the future.

An unexpected but helpful project presented itself to us for a volunteer opportunity in late winter. A member's extended family business received a large shipment of discount clothing, so she called upon others in the chapter to assist in taking the product to the nursing centers in our area for distribution. It was a rewarding time to see the joy among those who seldom have the chance to "shop" for things!

One big contribution to our community is continuing to be the sponsor organization for the annual area high school art show at the Whitewater Valley Arts Association. Often, we meet at their Gallery for our business meetings, to be able to view the monthly exhibits, especially this one we assist to present.

We appreciate the dedication of the 2023 HELICON to our chapter, in honor of our 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It might be thought that we have reached "retirement age" but we have no plans for that, yet. Slow and steady wins the race, and we are in it for the long haul! We are "loyal members of Psi lota Xi!"

#### ZETA XI

Madison, Indiana 24 Members First Monday March 1960

Slate of Officers: Shirley Herrick, President; Emily Fox, Vice President; Susanne Robbins, Recording Secretary; Sierra Rogers Austin, Corresponding Secretary; Nancy Ricketts, Treasurer; Jane Wilson, Assistant Treasurer; Alice Rogers, Conductress; Laura Chitwood, Advisor.

Chapter Activity: We began our year installing a fine group of officers in May. Shirley Herrick agreed to lead as our chapter president for a second year in a row. She arranged to have everything ready 30 minutes in advance of meetings, for sisters to have committee meetings or social time prior to each meeting. In June, we met at a local restaurant for our meeting and dinner. Eight of our members had a great time traveling to Evansville for National Convention, where we sold our addictive popcorn which much like our sisters is "Sweet and Spicy" along with beverage gift bags, cookbooks and handmade cards.

After our annual Speech and Hearing clinic, and some time off during the summer, we came back ready for projects and fundraising. In November, we had fun and competitive bidding at our Annual Harvest of Hobbies. A couple of weeks later we made our "Holiday Cheese Spread" which is our chapter's biggest fundraiser. In December, we enjoyed a meal at the home of our sister Bonnie Lee and exchanged gifts to celebrate the Christmas season. Our president provided us with a special treat, of unique singing reindeer, that brought unexpected laughter and amusement. The officers planned the year to blend business and social time at our meetings. We read "The Keeper of the Stars" by JoJo Moves in January and had "book club" style discussion in February. A few of us traveled to North Vernon, our sponsoring chapter, to attend a lively purse auction event in March. We ended our last meeting in April with a crafting night. We enjoyed socializing, lively discussions and new ideas to make an impact in our community.

During the year, our sisters worked to support great causes in our community. We provided a five week speech and hearing program serving local children. Giving to support music, we gave to the Madison Community Band, Madison Main Street Program: Music in the Park Series, and the community Messiah production. To support literature, we gave to the

Anderson Elementary School: Birthday Book Vending Machine program and to Ryker's Ridge Elementary School: Book Blast-reading program. To support art, we funded art supplies for our Boy's & Girl's Club summer program. We also provided donations to support our local Big Brothers/Sisters organization, CASA of Jefferson County, Jefferson County Youth Shelter, Jane's Kid's summer program, Shop with a Cop Christmas program and the United Way.

#### **ZETA TAU**

Milroy, Indiana 19 Members Second Wednesday October 11, 1964

Slate of Officers:\_Angie Fette, President; Carolanna Yager, Vice-President; Laura Jessup, Recording Secretary; Julie Tackett, Corresponding Secretary; Andrea Niedenthal, Treasurer; Peggy Fussner, Assistant Treasurer; Barbara Stiers, Conductress; Mary Ann Crisman, Advisor.

Social Activities: Our socials this year were a craft night and a night out for dinner. The October social was making three different kinds of handmade Christmas ornaments. The March social was held at Pudders restaurant in Shelbyville, with dinner and games with prizes.

Fundraisers/Charitable Activities: As far as our fundraisers, our largest endeavor was our community calendar, Cynthias fashion show came in as a close second. Additionally, we sold flower gift certificates from two different greenhouses, sold butter braids, and Rada cutlery. We hosted a Dairy Queen night and began a new fundraiser of Raise Right gift card sales.

Charities included during the holiday season members shopping for clothing for 13 children, adopting 16 nursing home residents and purchasing gifts to bring them some holiday cheer, and the purchase of the book "The Gift Shop Bear" for all the first grade students at Milroy Elementary. Our sorority maintains 14 little free libraries in our county and purchase books to keep them stocked for everyone's enjoyment.

Personalized memory books were purchased for the Milroy Elementary School kindergarten and members visited the school to personally read them to the children.

Chapter News: Our members have shared

their personal news of new grandchildren and the loss of loved ones. 2024 will be our chapter's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary so we have been working on a special celebratory trip for our members.



Members of Zeta Tau, Milroy, IN, purchased clothing for thirteen children during the holiday season.

#### THETA NU

Lexington, Kentucky 4 Members Last Tuesday May 20,1972

Slate of Officers: Donna Carrithers, President; Carol Bailey, Recording Secretary; Juanice Gillespie, Corresponding Secretary/Advisor; and Phyllis Cunningham, Treasurer.

Social Activities: We attended the 149th Run for the Roses at the Signature Club of Lansdowne luncheon and fundraiser for The Hearing and Speech Center (HSC) featuring sports reporter Tom Leach. We also attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Marksbury Family Foundation: Discovery Center. We decided to change our meeting day and time. No more night meetings! We chose the last Tuesday of the month, rotating time and place for brunch.

Charitable Activities: Theta Nu has been a chapter for 52 years. Libby Polack (Carol's mother) and I, (Libby Carol Meers Bailey) moved from the Kappa Chapter, Kokomo, IN, to Lexington, KY to form the Theta Nu Chapter. We searched for a Philanthropic Project and in 1960, the Lexington Deaf Oral School was selected. It was a day care for pre-school children with hearing loss, speech, and language needs. It was housed in a large, converted residence. The school has expanded to serve over 2,000 families in 67 Kentucky counties and is now called The Hearing and Speech Center.

Our chapter has had as many as 25 members in 1978 to 4 members in 2024. We have had at least 25 projects that we tried for only one or two years. There was one extremely successful project that lasted over 35 years. We have donated

money to the Hearing and Speech Center for the arts, literature, and music. We had at least 33 General Fund projects. We raised approximately \$16,000 for our General Fund. Theta Nu chapter has donated nearly \$170,000 to help those less fortunate since 1972!

Chapter News: As of May 1, 2024, we will no longer be a chapter. We have been asked by the Hearing and Speech Center to continue to do volunteer work with them, and we will. We always enjoy spending time with each other. There are so many wonderful Psi Otes who have supported us, and we will continue to be Psi Otes, loyal to the National Organization.



Members of Theta Nu, Lexington, KY, attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Marksbury Family Foundation Discovery Center.

### **IOTA PHI**

Clarksburg, Indiana 10 Members Third Tuesday April 7, 2019

**Slate of Officers:** Andrea Niedenthal, President; Pam Ford, Vice President; Tonya Smith, Treasurer; Tammy Morgan, Recording & Corresponding Secretary.

Our chapter generally holds our meetings via Zoom, which makes it easier for all our members to attend. In October 2023 and March 2024, we had socials at a local restaurant where many of our members were able to get together in person for good food and fun. We also met at a member's home in December 2023 to hold our annual holiday party and gift exchange.

Our chapter previously purchased and installed two Free Little Libraries - one was placed at the East Beach of Lake Santee and the other at the Clarksburg Fire Station, which we keep maintained and stocked with a wonderful assortment of books for all ages ranging from children through adult. Various fundraising efforts throughout the year allow us to purchase additional books and maintain the Free Little Libraries. In addition, our fundraiser efforts throughout this last year also gave us the opportunity to make monetary donations to the art and music programs and library at the North Decatur Elementary School and to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Fund at the Decatur County Hospital Foundation. Iota Phi looks forward to the upcoming year as we have some wonderful fundraising ideas in the works. We look forward to continuing to grow and build our small chapter to help more in the community.



Iota Phi, Clarksburg, IN, donated funds to North Decatur Elementary School's art, music, and library programs.

#### **IOTA CHI**

LaGrange, Kentucky 13 Members Second Monday May 19, 2019

Slate of Officers: Mary Emma Johnson, President; Rachel Barmantje, Vice President; Ashley Lyon, Advisor; Susan Scalf, Recording Secretary; Melanie Holbrook, Corresponding Secretary; Sandy Johnson, Treasurer and Conductress.

Social Activities: We began our fiscal year with a mini social where we made groovy tie-dye t-shirts and painted little inspiration rocks. The rocks were quite a hit at our sales table at the 2022-2023 Convention. In August we enjoyed a fun BBQ and potluck gathering at a member's home before the school year began. It was a lovely afternoon spent with our sisters and their families outside in the sun. Our sisters enjoyed a fun social outing in

October at the Madison Chautauqua Festival. We enjoyed strolling through the art booths and eating the delicious fried foods from the food trucks. In December we had our annual Christmas Party held at Sandy's house. The food was delightful as always and the saran wrap ball game was the highlight of the party.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: In July we participated in the Oldham County Day festival in LaGrange, KY. We passed out brochures to spread awareness of our sorority and this year we sold chances to win our "Mother's Day Out" fundraiser basket. All proceeds we made were donated to the Oldham County Community Band. In September we participated in a new event outside of our county. We attended The Apple Festival in Trimble County. We made and sold small crafts catered towards children such as bracelets and wands. All proceeds we made were donated to the Trimble County Jr & Sr High Art Club. In November we held our annual cheese spread fundraiser. This vear we added a new flavor - chocolate chip cookie dough, and it was a hit! This year we sold a total of 215 spreads.

With the help of our member Susan Scalf, her devoted husband and son, we were able to build a little library and place it in our local community. It is filled with books catered to both children and adults and has been registered with the National Registry of Little Libraries. We hope this little library helps place more books in the hands of the people within our community.

In December, a couple of our sisters helped deliver food baskets and toys to families in need. We also gave a monetary donation towards the Barry Stoess Food Baskets to help purchase additional items that were needed for the food baskets.

Our chapter held a new fundraiser in February. We sold tickets for a Valentine's \$250 gift card to Ruth's Chris Steak House. It was a great fundraiser which made our chapter \$850 with very little effort.

At the 2022-2023 Convention, lota Chi was a recipient of one of the literacy grants. We presented our \$1,000 literacy grant check to LaGrange Elementary School. They have a book vending machine located in one of the hallways where children get to pick out a book to take home as a reward. We love how this project promotes a love and excitement for literacy and books. Our money will be used to purchase more books to add to their book vending machine for the children in kindergarten through fifth grade. Our check presentation was also featured on their live daily news.

Chapter News: Our President Mary Emma Johnson had a baby boy in November and our member Tiffany Kelley-Ridge had a baby girl in February. Our sister Ashley Lyon is holding the position of KSA president this year and next. We enjoyed supporting her as our chapter hosted the KSA Spring meeting in March. This year we celebrate chapter's five-year our anniversary. Iota Chi donated over \$4,000 within our local community. We added two new members to our chapter this year. Welcome Miranda Crabtree and Tammy Hayden!



lota Chi, LaGrange, KY, made a substantial donation to the Chatter Box.











# OUTHWEST DISTRICT

Total Community Outreach	\$ 45,338.79
Total Speech and Hearing	
Total Music	
Total Fine Arts	the state of the s
Total Literature/Literacy	

15 Chapters

306 Members

## SOUTHWEST DISTRICT CHAPTERS: Zeta, Bloomington, IN ...... 1904 Alpha Beta, Seymour, IN...... 1922 Alpha Omicron, Vincennes, IN ..... 1926 Alpha Psi, Washington, IN ...... 1928 Beta Beta, Sullivan, IN...... 1928 Beta Lambda, Bedford, IN ...... 1933 Beta Mu, Brownstown, IN ...... 1933 Gamma Iota, Shoals, IN ...... 1948 Zeta Gamma, Fort Branch, IN ..... 1957 Zeta Mu, Jasper, IN...... 1959 Eta Alpha, Nashville, IN...... 1966 Eta Chi, Martinsville, IN...... 1971 Theta Beta, Paoli, IN...... 1971 lota Lambda, Ferdinand, IN .......... 1985

It has been an amazing year for Psi lota Xi. I am so proud to be a member of the Southwest District and to be able to see the accomplishments that our chapters have made this past year. Some of the highlights of my year as Southwest District Officer and Senior District Officer include attending five National Council meetings, facilitating several District Officer meetings, and visiting five southwest chapters. I attended the Hoosier Salon Tea at the Governor's residence, participated in the Hear Indiana Run for Sound, and attended the Kentucky State meeting and the Indiana Association meeting.

I am proud to share that this year the Southwest District raised almost \$134,000 through various money-making projects and distributed more than \$135,000 to worthy programs and individuals. This is an awesome accomplishment for our fifteen chapters. Our district also gained seventeen new members this year!

It has been a pleasure to serve as Southwest District Officer for the past three years. I treasure the friendships I have made throughout the Southwest



# Jane Patton SOUTHWEST DISTRICT OFFICER Alpha Omicron, Vincennes, IN

District. I cannot express how grateful I am to the members of National Council and my sisters of Alpha Omicron for the support and friendship they have given me. Although I will be leaving the position of District Officer, I am looking forward to my future on National Council as the next National Editor. Always remember, if you need anything you can always email or call, I am very happy to help my Psi Ote sisters.

Pax vobiscum.

Jane Patton Southwest District Officer Alpha Omicron, Vincennes, IN

#### ZETA

Bloomington, Indiana 56 Members Second Tuesday November 19, 1904

We have had a wonderful year this year. We enjoyed a Cocktail Party, Glass Blowing, Spooky Stories, Holiday Games, and Cookie Exchange! Zeta held its Annual Meet the Psi Otes where we gave away \$45,000 to 50+ local grant recipients. We are pleased to have surpassed last year's grant money given and hope to again this coming year. Our Thrift Store is our only fundraiser, and we are happy it does so well. We are pleased to announce that we have initiated four new members this year and look forward to working beside them at the Thrift Store.



Zeta, Bloomington, IN, welcomed four new members into their circle of sisters.

#### **ALPHA BETA**

Seymour, Indiana 11 Members First Monday April 15, 1922

State of Officers: Georgiann Coons, President; Annette Reitman, Corresponding Secretary; Heather Reeves, Recording Secretary; Beverly Kimbley, Treasurer; Angie Craig, Advisor.

Our small, but mighty, group started off our Summer with the Baby Pageant at our local county fair. Even though this was a small fundraiser, what a pleasure it was to get a sneak peek at who will be our future leaders, educators, doctors, farmers and From there, we began our preparations for the city's Oktoberfest, our biggest fundraiser. Without the help from several friendly volunteers, we would not have been able to accomplish the task. After the Oktoberfest, we had a very successful Christmas wreath sale. Then, later in the Spring, the response to our 31-Raffle was overwhelming. Thank you to all the sisters out there supporting our cause!

For our Fall Social, our very own and very talented Georgiann Coons, taught us how to make beeswax candles and Fall decorations. Her creative mind is a blessing to our group! In lieu of a Spring Social, we decided to gather in support of the North Vernon chapter's Purse Auction. We had a thoroughly great time celebrating their success. It energized us into brainstorming new ideas for potential money raising activities in our own group.

Throughout the year, we held each other up during the sad times and loss of loved ones and we celebrated the blessings of marriages, new milestones achieved, and new grandbabies. Our sisterhood is strong.

#### ALPHA OMICRON

Vincennes, Indiana 18 Members Third Wednesday February 1926

Slate of Officers: Pam Gardner, President; Kathy Kahre, Vice President; Christina Lange, Recording/Corresponding Secretary; Jane Patton, Treasurer; Anne Pratt, Advisor; Sara Frenz, Conductress.

Social Activities: At our May chapter meeting we had a dinner, installed new officers, and initiated four new members. We also welcomed back a returning member. In December we held our annual gift exchange, dinner, and initiated three more new members. National Advisor, Maureen "Mo" Dix joined us for our December meeting.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: In July, we had our biggest annual fundraiser with ARTventures Camp and celebrated our 20th year of offering ARTventures Camp. This year, there were 164 campers that attended the camp promoting visual and performing arts such as cake decorating (one of our most requested classes), fiber arts, sculpture, woodworking, Bollywood dance, mask making, ninjitsu, clowning, and more. During ARTventures Camp, we conducted a successful food drive and donated to a local food bank.

In August we awarded three students attending Vincennes University scholarships through the Psi lota Xi Scholarship and the PIX American Sign Language Scholarship.

In September, Nancy Hensel, Victoria Ice, and Jane Patton represented our chapter by attending the Hoosier Salon's Afternoon Tea at the Governor's Mansion in Indianapolis. It was a beautiful day of sisterhood and learning about the Hoosier Salon.

In November, our members organized and wrapped gifts for local families through the Salvation Army Giving Tree.

A new event of volunteering that we added to our calendar in 2023 was volunteering at the performances at Old Town Players Theater. Members ran the concession stand, greeted performance attendees, and collected tickets.

December was a busy month with volunteering at the Chriskindlmarkt and Festival and hosting a Puppetry performance at the Red Skelton Performing Arts Center for all Knox County sixth grade students.

In April, we hosted the "Wizard of Oz of the Wild West" show at the Red Skelton Performing Arts Center for all Knox County third grade students. Also in April, we hosted the middle school art show for all Knox County middle schools to participate in. This juried art show allowed students to showcase their art to family and friends. Prizes were awarded to students as well as donations were given to each of the five art teachers who participated to add supplies to their classrooms. April was also the month that the Indiana Association of Psi lota Xi chapters voted to again fund the Psi Iota Xi American Sign Language Scholarship. Thanks to the Indiana chapters, we will be able to give three \$1,000 scholarships to deserving students during the 2025-26 academic year.

We ended our year with our annual Spring flower sale. History repeated itself by raining during the entire flower delivery and sorting process. The flowers were amazing again this year.

We were able to donate monies to a variety of local organizations such as the Clark Middle School Art Club, Red Skelton Museum, Vincennes University Theater Department, Old Towne Players Theater,



Alpha Omicron, Vincennes, IN, annually sponsors a performance for all county sixth-graders, at the Red Skelton Performing Arts Center. This year's show was Mr. Puppet's Comedy Show.

Northwest Art Guild, and the PIX National Long-Term Project, Hear Indiana.

**Chapter News**: We initiated seven new members this year. Our members had many celebrations over the past year, and we look forward to the 2024-2025 year.

#### **ALPHA PSI**

Washington, Indiana 12 Members First Tuesday April 27, 1928

Slate of officers: Christina Arnold, President; Nichole Doyle, Vice-President; Terri Resler, Recording Secretary; Brooke Perkins, Corresponding Secretary; Patricia Knepp, Treasurer; Roberta Wichman, Conductress; Leslie Doyle, Advisor.

Social Activities: Our May Breakfast was enjoyable this year as always, including our always competitive silent auction. It was held at Harvest Christian Church. We had a guest speaker from Comforting Hearts come and talk about the All-Inclusive Playground that is being built in our community. Our June banquet was a wonderful time together held at the Kiwanis Cabin. Although we didn't have any new members to welcome, we did honor our chapter Psi Ote of the year Shelley Ryan. Our fall party committee hosted a wonderful event at our honorary member, Sue Harper's, party barn. Our Christmas party was a fun night always. We had an "Ugly Sweater" contest, as well as played some Christmas and "Grinch" themed games with those in attendance, including the honorary members who joined us. We also held a "Gift Card Exchange".

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: This year we held our two long standing fundraisers: geraniums (spring) and wreaths (winter). Both fundraisers turned out very well. Additionally, we held our dressing fundraiser again, which was a success once again. We also held a Make



Alpha Psi, Washington, Indiana's May Breakfast planning committee.

and Take Charcuterie Valentine night to raise money for our National Long Term Project. This year we donated to Comforting Hearts to support the All-Inclusive playground that is being built in our community. There will be a music section within the playground to give children the opportunity to interact with different instruments. With this, we attended their ground-breaking ceremony, as well as the grand opening.

**Chapter News:** We lost an Honorary Retired member this year, Joyce Lee.

#### **BETA BETA**

Sullivan, Indiana 10 Members Third Monday May 28, 1928

Officers: Paula Powell, President; Barbie Fifer, Vice Presidential; Barb McKinney, Treasurer; Kathy Booker, Recording Secretary; Monica Trotter, Corresponding Secretary.

Fundraisers: We have two large fundraisers, bingo tent and cheeseballs. In September at our local Corn Festival, we have a bingo tent set up. On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, we play 15-20 games of bingo and Saturday after the local parade we do 30-35 games with a cover all at the end of each night. The locals look forward to our bingo tent. We enjoy our time with former sisters who come to help. Then in November and December we make cheese balls at the local middle school. Each member and some retired members sell the cheese balls to family, friends, coworkers and Facebook friends. We were happy to sell out this year with no extras in the freezer.

Charitable Activities: Each year we give the 3 local high schools 2 scholarships for \$300.00 each in music and art. We ask the schools' music and art departments for the names of deserving students in each department. We present them with a check on their awards night at each school on awards night at the end of the school year. We also help the local hospital's speech department with the purchase of supplies. In the fall and winter members donate hats and gloves to the local hospital's ER tree of hats and gloves. The gloves and hats are given to people in need of them. We donated to the local animal shelter to assist with food purchases and other items needed. We donated to the local Brown Baggers, a group that provides food items to children in need so that they can have a meal when school is not in session.

We are a small group but love to help serve our community. Once a sister, always a sister.

#### **BETA LAMBDA**

Bedford, Indiana 29 Members Second Tuesday May 1933

Slate of Officers: Connie McDaniel, President; Kate Smith, Vice President; Laura Chaille, Recording Secretary; Nancy Baker, Corresponding Secretary; JoAnn Ash and Lorri Hamer, Co-Treasurers; Lisa French and Lisa Short Co-Conductresses; Lisa French, Advisor.

Social Activities: We began our year at the Lawrence County Historical Museum, where we had our Initiation Ceremony for Suzanne Picerno and Traci Tritle. We had our 90th Anniversary exhibit and celebration on May 19th. It was considered a big success after all the hard work and time several members had given. Along with current members, we had Alumni members and State and National members attending. Everyone enjoyed themselves as it was suggested to dress as if it were 1933. During August, several sisters were involved in our annual yard sale at the home of Rowena Cross-Najafi. A lot of fun was had in addition to the setting up, sales, and tearing down. In September, several members gathered at the home of Lorri Hamer to have fun making cheeseballs for a fundraiser. We then took up orders and sold them at the Lincoln Elementary School Fall Festival. In December, we had our annual Christmas get together at the home of Lorri Hamer, where we had our "ugly sweater" contest and gift auction. We always look forward to this tremendously as we have several Alumni members and guests attend with delicious treats and drinks to enjoy. Our year concluded in April as we met at the Lawrence County Historical Museum and initiated new member Cori Henry. We ended the year happy to have finished a productive year that was also so enjoyable.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: During August we had our member's summer yard sale. We sold cheeseballs in September and October. In December we sold Poinsettias and raised money at our Christmas auction. During April we sold plants for the Spring/Summer season. We made donations to our local 4H Communication and Expressive Arts; Children's Little Theatre Summer Drama Class; Mitchell Schools Art Department; North Lawrence School Art Department;

North Lawrence Schools Music Department; North Lawrence Schools Speech and Hearing; Lawrence County Art Association; and two scholarships to local Seniors who are pursuing education in the field of music, art or education.

Chapter News: We pledged one recruit in April and will have her initiation ceremony in May. Our Psi Ote of the year recipient is Renita Watts. JoAnn Ash and Connie McDaniel had perfect attendance. We had several members volunteer at the Bedford North Lawrence School Art Show and School Play. We also had a few sisters volunteer to judge at a 4H District Talent show.



Beta Lambda, Bedford, IN, celebrated 90 years of service to their community by having a 1930's themed party.

#### **BETA MU**

Brownstown, Indiana 22 Members Third Tuesday November 4, 1933

Slate of Officers: Alicia Reedy, President; Andrea Blair-Sheldon, Vice-President; Judy Miller and Jeanna Eppley, Co-Treasurers; Brycelyn Pottschmidt and Jamah Stahl, Co-Recording Secretaries.

Chapter News: We are dealing with getting our members engaged, especially for monthly meetings. Our chapter is still working towards building a new Nutty Bar stand at the Jackson Country Fairgrounds.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Our two fundraisers for 2023 were Nutty Bars at the Jackson County Fair and cheeseballs. This year, we reduced our hours at the county fair, as the afternoon shift was

lacking volunteer for staffing. We continue to do well with our cheeseball sales. We have our original cheddar, beef & cheddar, and original rolled in nuts.

Our fundraising efforts allow us to support the national and state projects, in addition to our local projects. Some of those include art and music scholarships, monies to Distinguished Young Women's contest, 4-H, Brownstown Main Street, Southern Indiana Center of the Arts. We also donated to the Jackson County Hearing Aid Fund for School Age Children. This is administered by the Community Foundation of Jackson County.

#### **GAMMA IOTA**

Shoals, Indiana 9 Members Second Tuesday August 16, 1948

Slate of Officers: Audra P. Deckard, President; Tiffany Wittmer, Vice President; Kellie Shaw, Corresponding Secretary; Sherry, Recording Secretary; Jennifer Allbright, Treasurer; Lynette Harker, Conductress; and Ashley Roush, Advisor.

Social Activities: In December 2023, we held our annual Christmas party, where members and retired members had a dinner at a local Mexican restaurant, in Shoals. Our chapter usually has a Fall and a Spring themed auction. Gamma lota ended the year at a local restaurant where all current and retired members were invited to look back and celebrate the year's success!

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Our chapter gave back to the community this past year by donating funds to the Shoals Community Schools' art, music, and hearing programs. Our chapter made donations to both the Elementary and High School music departments in the month of March for "Music in our Schools." Throughout the year the Chapter also donated funds to multiple organizations in our town, such as the Shoals Community School Corporation, Shoals Catfish Festival, Shoals Public Library, Little League, and Middle School and High School Robotics teams. Athletic banquets were held to honor the Shoals Girls' Volleyball and Basketball teams before sectional. A guest speaker provided encouragement and wisdom, and dinner was served as well along with teambuilding activities. In February our chapter sponsored a blood drive with the American Red Cross. Each year Gamma lota makes and sells cheeseballs in November and sells a variety of flowers in April. This year

Gamma lota is honored to be the non-profit organization and fiscal sponsor for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library for Martin County. This allows children ages 0 to 5 to receive a monthly book in the mail at no cost to them if they are signed up!

Chapter News: Throughout the year the chapter celebrates birthdays, anniversaries, and sends out cards to those in need of cheer. Gamma lota is a small chapter, but the members are dedicated, and we continue to support our community all throughout the year.

#### **ZETA GAMMA**

Fort Branch, Indiana 12 embers First Tuesday October 6, 1957

Slate of Officers: Lesa Bond, President; Dawn Michel, Vice-President; Jaynell Dix, Recording Secretary; Maureen Dix, Corresponding Secretary; Sheryl Walker-Isakson, Treasurer; Trenda Ridge, Conductress; Margie Beal, Advisor

Social Activities: Lesa Bond led Zeta Gamma to another successful year. We enjoyed our June, November, December and March socials with our current and honorary members and guests. In June we initiated a college student. We hope she will be active when she finishes her education. We were honored to have our National Editor, Terri Resler come to our November social. She presented Mo with her Helicon. That was special for all of us to be included in. In December we enjoyed dinner followed by a dirty Santa game. That's always a fun time. In March we were at Lesa's house for a fun evening.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Our Chapter made Charitable donations to several organizations including the Fort Branch Library Summer Programs, Women's Fund of Gibson County, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Long Term Project, Broadway Players, Lolly/Riley Children's Hospital, Evansville Philharmonic, Isaiah 1:17 Project, and Scholarships for Gibson Southern High School. We like to donate to all our fields of endeavor.

Our fundraisers this year were selling cheeseballs for Thanksgiving and Christmas which are very well supported by our community and our Father-Daughter Dance. Our Father-Daughter Dance has turned into our biggest fundraiser of the year with over 399 guests in attendance and was a huge success. We get asked when we're going to have it if we don't get

the date out soon enough. They really look forward to it.

Chapter News: After working on the national convention last year, we just relaxed this year. We were thankful for everyone that attended and supported our raffles. Now the big job of deciding who gets the rewards from our work. It may take us a little while to decide because we'd really like to make a statement and benefit as many people as possible. Don't ever think you can't host a convention because we are a chapter of 12. It just takes your sisters working together for the good of your community.

#### **ZETA MU**

Jasper, Indiana 23 Members Second Tuesday October 30, 1959

Slate of Officers: Lynn Arthur, President; Jess Poole, Vice-President/Conductress; Leisa Lowrey, Treasurer; Lynn Maitlen, Recording/Corresponding Secretary; Ginger Hedinger, Advisor.

Social activities: Our year began welcoming Jessica Pfau into our membership during our Installation and Initiation Banquet. The dinner was held at the Legacy Steakhouse. Nan Mehringer was honored for 40 years of service, and Ginger Hedinger was honored as Psi Ote of the Year.

Sisterhood traditions continue in several ways. We have our monthly Lunch Bunch, where sisters meet once a month for lunch at a local restaurant. Roll call asks members for the names of favorite books, seasonal activities or favorite traditions. Following some of the business meetings we have made friendship bracelets, added PIX logos to shirts, enjoyed food and friendship.

Our summer picnic was held at Nan Mehringer's lake cabin. The weather was great, with fantastic food and wonderful fellowship.

Community outreach was enhanced this fall. A local author released a book, "Enlow: Chubby Cheeks and Jasper Streets". Zeta Mu sponsored a coloring page contest to correlate with the book. Enlow books were awarded as prizes to several students in each of the three Jasper elementary schools. In October we participated in our library's Halloween Party. Members dressed in costume and led organized games at the event.

For our November meeting, we met at the (Southwestern SWICACC Indiana Children's Advocacy Center Coalition with representatives from Ferdinand, Paoli, Shoals, Washington, and Odon chapters collaborating on the SWICACC project. We shared a delicious dinner and presented the check from the Indiana State Association of Psi lota Xi to Tammy Lampert, Executive Director of the Center. She shared the activities, goals and needs of the center and offered tours of their facility. Tammy shared that the center provided services to over 300 children from 6 counties during 2023.

Holidays always mean fabulous food and fun. Our Silver and Gold Christmas party featured great food and fun games. Our Valentine's party included yummy snacks, and we made friendship bracelets.

March was another first for our chapter. In collaboration with The Jasper Community Arts, Zeta Mu sponsored a new Senior Art Award. The Community Arts Center sponsors a county wide art show each spring for all local students. The Senior Art Award would recognize an outstanding senior's artwork. The Senior Art Award was met with enthusiasm from the Community Arts, and High School Art Teachers. Erica Frank from Southridge High School, Huntingburg, was presented with a check during the art show opening reception, with many Psi Otes attending.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Our Language and Literacy Camp was held during June at a local elementary school. Fifty students attended, and two teachers provided fun and instruction for these students. We continued our Suzanne Kress Memorial Scholarship, renewable for four years, for a local high school senior. We collected items for the Dove House, SWICACC, and Crisis Connection. We continued to support Friends of the Library, and the Jasper Community Arts Commission. We sent cards to members with illness or procedures as well as memorial gifts for members experiencing a death in their family. The proceeds from our 50/50 monthly drawing provided our annual donation for the Long Term National Project.

Anticipation is mounting as Zeta Mu approaches "another first" hosting a community wide scavenger hunt. Members have been working diligently to identify and coordinate all the components that will make this hunt a success. Historic sites were chosen and clues were meticulously developed. Logistics were organized. Local businesses donated prizes; flyers distributed as well as local

announcements in the newspaper. Our event, named Jasper Schnitzeljagd, which is in conjunction with Old Jasper Day festivities, Schnitzeljagd is the German name for scavenger hunt. The event will be held in May.

Our other fundraisers are the fall nuts and candy sales and our summer Wine and Arts Festival. Our fall fundraiser partners with supplier Terri Lynn. We carry out face to face sales as well as online sales. Our website sales help to boost revenue and make it easy for our customers to have fresh nuts and candy all year round. Our summer Wine and Arts Festival was held during Jasper's city-wide Strassenfest. Many people were able to peruse the art vendors and visit the wineries to sample and purchase various wines.



Zeta Mu, Jasper, IN, presented its inaugural Senior Art Award at the Community Arts Center's county wide student art show.

#### **ETA ALPHA**

Nashville, Indiana 24 Members Second Monday May 1, 1966

Slate of Officers: Pam Bond, President; Jenny Bowden, Vice President; Jill Wray, Treasurer; Audrey Evans, Recording Secretary; Stephanie Dean, Corresponding Secretary; Lisa Shaner, Conductress; Allison O'Shea, Advisor.

Social Activities: We begin each meeting with a short social time that includes yummy food prepared by our members. In December, we had a special time after our lovely dinner and our meeting where we played a game as we exchanged gift bags. We had a great time at our initiation dinner held at a local restaurant. We enjoyed a silent auction and a beautiful time of fellowship. We are ending our year at a member's home on the lake, and it is always fun and a little more relaxed than usual and a great way to end.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Once again, we held our two main fundraisers, a



Alpha Eta, Nashville, IN, unloading and sorting flowers in preparation for their annual Spring Flower sale.

fall mum sale and spring flower sale. They were both very successful. Not only are these fundraisers hard work but it does provide a time for our community to see us as we sort our preorders and sell extras right on the main street through downtown. We always enjoy working together on these fundraisers. We also reintroduced Raiseright to our chapter and have updated our Kroger points to make sure to get any support through these resources that we can. It has proven to be easy and profitable. We collected food items for our local food pantry. Some of our contributions went to student college scholarships, books for 4th grade students in the district, Silver Strings, monetary awards for local art shows and more.

Chapter News: We were so happy to initiate a new member this year. It was a great celebration with some guests and alumni attending. We were also saddened by the passing of 2 alumni. We were able to provide a Psi lota Xi Memorial at both services and were honored to do so. These ladies had contributed to our chapter in special ways and their influence was special. Overall, we have had a good year of involvement and fundraising giving us many opportunities to help our community and beyond. We look forward to the upcoming year and hope to increase our community involvement.

#### **ETA CHI**

Martinsville, Indiana 17 Members Second Monday January 31, 1971

**Slate of Officers:** Pam Maxwell, President; Ann Marvel Vice-President; Marcia Callis,

Recording Secretary; Janet Putt, Recording Secretary; Sharon Tutterow/Evelyn Long, Treasurer; Mary Hankins, Conductress; Kathy Burkhart, Advisor.

Eta Chi welcomed back two former members, Phyllis Miller and Leah Armstrong. The chapter is pleased to accept a new transfer member. Beverly Schreiber. The members enjoyed the chapter's 53rd birthday year in January at the home of Suzie Lipps with dinner and cake. In 2023, the chapter had a fun day with a luncheon visit to Batar Tea Room near Seymour, IN. Chapter members are involved with volunteer hours in the community. All members volunteer as hostesses at our monthly meetings throughout the year and assist with chapter committees. Members Kathy Burkhart and Janet Putt represented the chapter as delegates at the 2023 Indiana State Pam Meeting in Lafayette, Indiana. Maxwell and Mary Hankins served as delegates at the 2023 National Convention.

In supporting philanthropic efforts, the chapter has an annual mum sale in August. Kroger cards also gain monetary support.

The Eta Chi Chapter supports local philanthropic community projects including a summer library reading program, art, music, and speech/hearing in our local schools. Other community charitable donations are canned food items for the local Wellspring Shelter and the Churches in Mission. The chapter also provides funding for the Community Concert Series held in Morgan County. The group supports the Psi lota Xi long term project and Hear Indiana Happy Hollow Summer Camp for children with impaired hearing. The Judith Bertelsen high school scholarship award was presented to a student continuing in the areas of art, music, literature, or speech/hearing.

The Eta Chi Chapter sent its condolences and a rose to the family of former member, Cheryl Fogelman. Cheryl was an active member for many years serving several offices within the local chapter and participated in numerous community projects. She will forever be remembered. A donation to a local charity "Christmas with Cops" was presented in her honor.

Our chapter will continue supporting local, state, and national philanthropic projects in the areas of art, music, literature, and speech/hearing.



Eta Chi, Martinsville, IN, celebrating 53 years as Psi Ote sisterhood.

#### THETA BETA

Paoli, Indiana 24 Members First Wednesday May 2, 1971

Slate of Officers: Shawn King, President; Audrey Miller, Vice President; Erica Livingston, Recording Secretary; Lori Livingston, Treasurer; Amber Blankenbaker, Conductress; Jessica Beaty, Corresponding Secretary.

We had another busy, exciting and successful year for our Theta Beta Chapter. We have 24 active members, and we are always looking to grow. Some of our highlights from this year would have been four community outreaches, we were able to award a scholarship and had fun making cheeseballs for our largest fundraiser of the year. In May, we awarded a scholarship to very deserving senior. In August, our hometown was hit by multiple tornadoes which caused a lot of destruction so a few of our available ladies wanted to figure out a way to help the community. We spent 6 hours cleaning up our town. In September, we had our annual Paoli Fall Festival and was able to make a Cookies & Canvas event and Baby Contest a success again this year. In October, we hosted our annual

Spook Parade. The weather was very cold, so our attendance was down but still we had a great time and had great costumes. November is cheeseball making month. Our cheeseballs were once again a huge hit. We sold around 600 cheeseballs this year! This is always our biggest fundraiser; we have such a good time together. Our Christmas party is always so much fun as we get together for lots more laughs in December. During this time, we bring canned goods for our local food pantry and items that are needed for our local humane society. In February, we participated in Backpacks of Blessings monthly bag pack. We help to pack bags that are distributed to our local children at school that are at risk of hunger on the weekends. We held our annual Easter egg hunt in March which was a success with over 100 children in attendance. The weather was exceptional for this time of year, so we are thankful for that. Our local fire and police departments came to this event also. The children love to interact with the fire engines, police dog, and of course take pictures with our Easter Bunny. In April, we held our annual book distribution for our local elementary school which is always popular with the students. We were once again able to distribute over 700 books in grades K-6. Each student received a book of their choice. We love to see the students get excited about reading. We also participated in the sales room of state convention and had a great time while selling some nice items to other Psi Ote members.

It's amazing when we look at all we can accomplish through sisterhood and just how many people's lives we can touch! We are the THETA BETA Chapter of PSI IOTA XI!

#### **IOTA LAMBDA**

Ferdinand, Indiana 35 Members First Wednesday June 28, 1985

Slate of Officers: Karen Haas, President; Nicole Englert, Vice President; Rachael Schipp, Recording Secretary; Donna Weyer, Corresponding Secretary; Erin Schroering, Treasurer; Theresa Tretter, Assistant Treasurer; Joni Meyer, Conductress; Julie Fischer, Advisor.

Social Activities: In July, we host a Girls Night Out event. It is an opportunity for our sorority members to relax and enjoy an evening of food, fun and friendship. At Christmas, we celebrate the season with a catered meal, a gift exchange, and prizes. A Taster's Party/Game Night in January is always a wonderful evening. We each



Iota Lambda, Ferdinand, IN, ready to attend the Indiana Association meeting in Crawfordsville.

brought a dish with copies of the recipe to share with the group and spent the evening playing Bunco. Members are encouraged to bring a guest to this event to promote Psi lota Xi to potential new members. In May, we host an installation of new officers and a new member initiation ceremony. The officers provide a carry-in meal complete with desserts to celebrate another successful year.

#### Charitable Activities/Fundraisers:

November is cheeseball season for lota Lambda. Our largest fundraiser of the year runs conjunction with Christkindlmarkt hosted in the town of Ferdinand. These funds enable us to provide a speech and hearing clinic each summer, as well as two senior scholarships. We donated monies for two band uniforms, the backdrop for the high school play, and a Christmas reading project at the local grade schools. We also provided funds to the art departments in our school system for needed supplies.

Within the community, our library, the YMCA, Crisis Connection and SWICACC (Southwestern Indiana Child Advocacy Center Coalition) receive donations from our sorority.

**Chapter News:** We were pleased to initiate 3 new members this year. With the diverse ages of our members, we are blessed to share in the milestones of life.

#### **IOTA RHO**

Odon, Indiana 7 Members Second Tuesday May 3, 2024

State of Officers: Cindy Osmon, President; Stacy Drew, Vice President; Emily Schnell Moreno, Recording Secretary; Rachel Tribby, Corresponding Secretary; Lorna Tribby, Treasurer. Social Activities: We were able to have monthly meetings in person this year. We had a Christmas party that included a gift exchange. Our June meeting consisted of a murder mystery party with our meeting activities added into the breaks. We had members attend both State and National meetings as well.

Charitable Activities/Fundraisers: Our fundraisers consisted of three main activities. The winter fundraiser was our cheese balls. We got together to make and package them before delivering them. The spring fundraiser was a Norwex sales event through Facebook. The fall was the pumpkin festival booths. We had a pumpkin judging table, a bake sale, and a fun activity for the kids. We donated set amounts to the NDHS band and library; the elementary school music and art, speech and hearing; the ND school nurse; and the Odon Public Library. We also did an elective monthly donation to anyone in need in the community during our meetings as needed.

Chapter News: Future member Iris Tribby was born with members Rachel Tribby being a mother and Lorna Tribby being a grandmother for the first time. Emily Schnell became Mrs. Moreno. Cindy Osmon accepted her first State office. Betty Howard will be stepping up as president for the first time.



lota Rho, Odon, IN, at their Christmas gathering which included a little legacy!

It is a noble thing to give cheer to those less fortunate about you. Let us then be of good cheer that the lives of those about us may be enriched.



### National Memorial Fund 2023-2024 Donations



Donor Honoree

Rae Harris, PNP

Memory: Kathy Miller PNP - Beta Delta

Memory: Helen Fox

Elizabeth Keeny, PNP

Honor: Andrea Niedenthal - Zeta Tau

Honor: Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery - Theta Theta

Honor: Mickie Hansen - Upsilon Memory: Kathy Miller PNP - Beta Delta Memory: Sarah Webb - Beta Tau Memory: Helen Senesac - Beta Tau

Memory: Jack Paddack Memory: David Mohre

Kim Crawley, PNP

Memory: David Mohre Memory: Michael Hoffman

Pat Kugler, PNP

Memory: David Mohre Memory: Michael Hoffman

Mo Dix, PNP

Memory: Michael Hoffman

Lynn Ancich

Memory: Claire

Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, National President

Memory: Kathy Miller, PNP - Beta Delta Memory: Betty Miller - Beta Delta

**Teresa Sommers** 

Memory: Shirley Ann Brewer - Theta lota Memory: Pam Ashton - Theta lota Memory: Linda Hintzman - Theta lota

Robert & Glenda Mann

Memory: Nancy Slaubaugh

Dennis & Rhonda Barkman

Memory: Nancy Slaubaugh

Brian & Misty Grow

Memory: Nancy Slaubaugh

Your tax-deductible donation will help to establish yet another tradition of public service. It can be a creative and living tribute to someone special to you.

Total donations for 2023-2024: \$2,340.47

Donor Honoree

Chi

Memory: 2023-2024 deceased Chi members

Omega

Memory: Marsha Wilhoite - Omega Memory: Martha Westfall - Omega Memory: Wilma Swackhamer - Omega

Beta Gamma

Memory: Lisa McKinley Reibly - Beta Gamma

Gamma Alpha

Gamma lota

lota Xi

Memory: Marilyn Fox

Zeta Xi

Memory: Joyce Hooker Ashbrook - Zeta Xi

Eta Alpha

Memory: Natalie Stant Memory: Peggy Thompson

Theta Kappa

Memory: Past Sisters

Iota Rho

Memory: Helen Smith

Iota Sigma

Honor: Ramona Simpson, PNP



# Mational Convention Memorial Service Presented by Theta Theta, Fort Wayne, IN

#### **Northeast District**

Alpha Eta

Dianne E. Schwarzkopf

Alpha Rho

Patricia Kinsey

**Beta Gamma** 

Lisa Kay McKinley Reibly

Phi

Bonnie Hall Donna Gass Jane Schenkel Marguerite "Sue" Strass Sally Manes

Pi

Carol Buttell Gloria Ashman Lois Snouffer Marilyn Larson Martha Rarick

Rho

Diana Roe Janet I. (Hantz) Dowell Nancy Cross

Theta Kappa

Marcia Lynn Theil

#### **Northwest District**

Alpha Xi

Sally J. (Flesher) Lipscomb

Beta Psi

Deanna Pearson

Beta Psi (Delphi)

Dorothy Mills

Chi

Alfreda M. Wesner Betty Jean Johnson Shirley Ann Brummett

**Gamma Beta** 

Patricia Jane Kinsell

Gamma Upsilon

Roberta "Bobbie" Brettnacher

lota Xi

Marilyn D. Fox

Theta lota

Shirley Ann (Huffman) Brewer

#### **East Central District**

Alpha

Barbara Jane Kvam Judith L. McCord

Alpha Chi

Debra Soliday Jean Ann McIntyre

Beta Pi

Julia Henderson Nancy Kirlin

**Beta Zeta** 

Carolyn R. Lambertson Mary F. Morgan

Delta Gamma (disbanded)

Clair Linette Hicks

Gamma Alpha

Capitola "Capi" Bubp

**Gamma Eta** 

Constance "Connie" L. Caudill Sherry "Sue" White

Kappa

Joella Gayle Wessendorf Judy Ann (Stacer) Wainscott Marilyn D. Fox Miriam Jane "Mimi" Slate Nancy Lynn Slaubaugh Pamela Jean Wolfgram

#### **West Central District**

**Beta Tau** 

Helen Senesac Sarah Webb

**Eta Delta** 

Barbara Ann Fearnow

**Eta Lambda** 

Barbara Lanning Johnson Rebecca "Becky" Hardin

**Gamma Delta** 

Beverly Brown

Gamma Xi

Eatha Sommer Jackie Loy

Omega

Marsha Wilhoite Martha Westfall Wilma Swackhamer

#### **Southeast District**

Alpha Theta

Virginia Bushau

**Beta Phi** 

Marilyn Sullivan Mary Alice Secrest

**Beta Sigma** 

Eileen (Caudill) Everitt Shirley A. Deaton

**Epsilon** 

Amy Lee Kutch Janet Louise Stine Sharon Kay Poe

lota

Carol Fenimore Janice Burkett Margaret Spitzer

Upsilon

Donna Grose Sarah "Sally" Nicely

Zeta Tau

Sue Carol Weintraut

Zeta Xi

Joyce Ashbrook

#### **Southwest District**

**Alpha Omicron** 

Charlotte Swonder

Alpha Psi

Joyce Lee

Eta Chi

Cheryl Ann Sink Fogelman Jayne Kay Wiley Higgins Lillian Kent Hunt

Iota Rho

Helen Smith

Zeta Mu

Carol L. Schmidt Dorothy M. Weidenbenner Patricia A. Hollinden Shirley Ann Eckert







Lou Ann Brown
November 19, 1932 - August 6, 2023
Zeta Beta - EC
Anderson, Indiana



Diane Kaye Daoust
June 16, 1947 - June 4, 2023
Zeta Beta - EC
Anderson, Indiana



Cheryl Ann (Sink) Fogleman
July 28, 1947 - December 12, 2023
Eta Chi - SW
Martinsville, Indiana



Janice Burkett August 24, 1937 - March 6, 2024 Iota - SE Rushville. Indiana



Margaret "Peggy McClung Edwards October 7, 1930 - May 16, 2024 Alpha - EC Muncie, Indiana



Marilyn D. Fox June 12, 1932 - August 5, 2023 Kappa - EC Kokomo, Indiana



Nancy L. Moody Cross February 22, 1932 - January 29, 2024 Rho - NE Angola, Indiana



Carol Fenimore
January 12, 1963 - July 8, 2023
Iota - SE
Rushville, Indiana



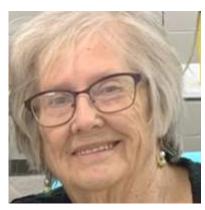
**Donna Lee (France) Gass** January 19, 1947 - February 17, 2024 Phi - NE Huntington, Indiana







Bonnie L. Hall November 4, 1949 - March 17, 2024 Phi - NE Huntington, Indiana



Linda K Hochstetler August 10, 1942 - November 16, 2023 Alpha Phi - EC Fortville, Indiana



Patricia Yvonne Kinsley November 25, 1932 - January 24, 2024 Alpha Rho - NE Garrett, Indiana



Rebecca "Becky" Hardin July 3, 1961 - May 3, 2023 Eta Lambda - WC Beech Grove, Indiana



**Jewell Agan Hodges**December 5, 1924 - August 9, 2023
French Lick, Indiana



Nancy Jane Kirlin July 6, 1939 - March 15, 2024 Beta Pi - EC Cambridge City, Indiana



Claire Linette Hicks
March 21, 1952 - March 20, 2024
Delta Gamma - Disbanded
Columbia City, Indiana



Patricia Jane Kinsell January 9, 1929 - July 9, 2023 Gamma Beta - NW Remington, Indiana



Barbara Jane Kvam April 12, 2024 Alpha - EC Muncie, Indiana







Joyce Ann Lee December 2, 1933 - April 24, 2024 Alpha Psi - SW Washington, Indiana



Jean Ann McIntyre July 11, 1940 - April 29, 2024 Eta Omicron - NE Kalamazoo, Michigan



Georgiana Ida Rupprecht Schroeder July 20, 1931 - October 24, 2023 Alpha Lambda - WC Zionsville, Indiana



Sally J. Lipscomb August 8, 1932 - April 18, 2024 Alpha Xi - NW Logansport, Indiana



Lisa Kay McKinley Reibly May 27, 1973 - April 110, 2024 Beta Gamma - NE Peru, Indiana



Jane A. Schenkel May 22, 1943 - February 19, 2024 Phi - NE Huntington, Indiana



Sally A. Manes
March 1, 1936 - January 27, 2024
Phi - NE
Huntington, Indiana



**Diana J. Roe**December 27, 1933 - March 20, 2024
Rho - NE
Angola, Indiana



Carol L. Schmidt September 1, 1941 - September 5, 2023 Zeta Mu - SW Jasper, Indiana







Mary Alice Secrest December 6, 1931 - February 25, 2024 Beta Phi - SE Shelbyville, Indiana



Debra Joyce Soliday November 27, 1953 - May 11, 2024 Alpha Chi - EC Hagerstown, Indiana



Marilyn J. Sullivan November 14, 1939 - July 25, 2023 Beta Phi - SE Shelbyville, Indiana



Nancy Lynn (Nieder) Slaubaugh February 5, 1938 - September 27, 2023 Kappa - EC Kokomo, Indiana



Marguerite (Sue) Strass February 16, 1957 - February 13, 2024 Phi - NE



**Charlotte Marie Swonder** October 7, 1923 - April 15, 2024 Alpha Omicron - SW



**Helen Marie Smith** July 12, 1951 - October 30, 2023 Iota Rho - SW Odon, Indiana





## 2025 Mational President

## Taffy Day's introductory speech of Mickie Hansen at the 2024 National Convention:

I have the great privilege of introducing someone to you that I have come to love dearly as a sister, a team-mate, a co-conspirator, and especially a best friend! When I say to you that I don't know what I would have done without her for the last 8 years, I really mean it...she is the voice of reason when things get crazy, but also the crazy when things get boring!

We met at the 2015 National Convention when we were both installed as District Officers on National Council. She came up to me all bubbly and introduced herself and I thought "How am I ever going to keep up with that ball of energy?" But that moment started a friendship that I will cherish forever!

She is so funny! Oh, so funny! She dances, sings, and thoroughly entertains us! She wakes us up with songs on National Council weekends! If you need a funny skit, she is your girl!

She has a long history with Psi Iota Xi. In 1994, she joined the Beta Kappa Chapter in Bloomfield, IN. When her husband Rusty took a job Greenfield in 1995, transferred to the Upsilon Chapter thinking that it would be a great way to meet people in her new community. After serving several years at chapter officer positions, she got a call from Brenda Fisher in 2012 with the request that she serve as the Indiana State Treasurer. The same year that her chapter hosted the State Meeting in Greenfield, she got a call from Brenda Bonner to join National Council as SE District Officer. Out of the 30 years that she has been a Psi Ote, 11 of those years have been spent in leadership positions. That is truly impressive!

The year she was installed as the National Project Chair, she was diagnosed with Breast Cancer! She did not miss a beat while going intensive through treatments and kept her signature sense of humor the whole time! I clearly remember SO determination not to miss any important sorority events! Sometimes that meant having a treatment, taking a little nap, and then heading out to wherever she needed to be! She was fearless and a hero to all of us who witnessed it!

Her chapter loves and admires her so much that they recently voted her their Psi Ote of the Year Award. While they realized they couldn't nominate her for the National Psi Ote of the Year because of her position on National Council, they felt it was important to recognize her contributions to their chapter the broader Psi Ote community! I would like to read a few excerpts from their lovely tribute!

"It is with great pleasure that the Upsilon chapter recognizes this sister for the 2023-2024 Psi Ote of the Year Award. She has exemplified unwavering dedication to the mission of Psi Iota Xi, and her contributions have been nothing short of extraordinary.

This sister has been an integral part of our chapter, demonstrating exceptional leadership qualities and a profound commitment to our organizational goals. Whenever there is a question on how to do something correctly, we oftentimes find ourselves looking to her wisdom and experience.



Mickie Hansen 2023-2024 National Vice President Upsilon - Greenfield, IN

Her passion for Psi Iota Xi is evident in every aspect of her involvement, and her impact has been felt not only with our chapter but also on a state and national level.

As a testament to her dedication, she has most recently served as the National Vice President, showcasing her leadership abilities and her deep understanding of Psi Iota Xi's values and objectives. Her tireless efforts have helped shape the direction of our organization and have inspired countless members to become more involved and dedicated to our cause.

One of our chapter members beautifully summed up this sister's commitment by saying, "She is Wonder Woman. She dedicates so much of her time to sorority on top of running a household, taking care of in-laws, taking care of her grandkids and kids. She eats, sleeps, and breathes Psi lota Xi." This quote truly captures the immense sacrifices she has made to ensure the success of Psi lota Xi, and her unwavering dedication

serves as an inspiration to us all."

She is always there for her Psi Ote sisters, no matter what! I remember one time that she talked to me all the way home from a chapter visit that I was making far from home. It was late at night and a long drive, and I was having trouble seeing on those dark country roads. She talked to me the whole time to make sure I was safe! She is truly my sister!

Occasionally, you meet someone who makes you want to be a better version of yourself and for me that is our next National President, my sister, Mickie Hansen!

#### Mickie Hansen's speech following her installation as National President as the 2024 National Convention:

Thank you, Taffy, for sharing those kind words, and thank you all for being here with us today.

I'm truly blessed and honored to be your next National President. My goal is to perform this job to the best of my ability through active listening and communication with all of you, and by collaborating with National Council to make the best decisions possible for organization. I would also like to thank our Past National Presidents and share how proud I am to be part of a long tradition of exceptional women, and then to thank our National Council members for their unwavering support over the past few years.

Growing up in southern Indiana I spent a lot of time with my grandparents, and through them I learned the value of hard work; to never give up no matter what life throws at you and that faith and family are the most important things in life.

I'm fortunate to have my family in attendance today: my husband Rusty, father-in-law Bob, and grandchildren Mia, and Hunter are joining me via Facetime, my daughter Kara, my son Kolin, my cousin Amy, and her husband

Mack, my best friend Tracie, her daughter Annie, and her husband Garrett. Thank you for attending and supporting me. My chapter sisters are also in attendance.

I learned early in life that I needed to be grateful and to appreciate what I had. There were a lot of times growing up when I wished for life to be different, but life has a way of bringing you back to the path meant for you.

A mentor shared with me when I was about to venture out on a new path to make sure that I surrounded myself with good people. To seek them out, that they will be there to help me in my journey, and she was right.

When I transferred into the Upsilon chapter of Psi lota Xi 30 years ago, I had no idea where the journey would take me, but here I am. I would not be here without their support, guidance, and encouragement. It has been a wonderful, exciting adventure with my chapter sisters.

I'd like to share this quote from Abraham Lincoln that inspires me and guides me in my work with Psi lota Xi: "The past is your lesson, the present is your gift, but the future is your motivation. The best way to predict your future is to create it."

Our past is always present in our lives; it shapes and molds us. Who I am today came from the values my grandparents taught me as a child, and from the encouragement I received from a friend to surround myself with like-minded people who shared my values, interests, and goals. The purpose of Psi Iota Xi has always been to keep this community of women together striving to make a difference by introducing cultural experiences into our communities through Art, Literature and Music.

"Share the Past, Experience Our Future" will be our convention theme in 2025. For the past 127 years we've done an amazing job of Sharing the Past. That was visible in our District Officer PowerPoint Presentations on Elsie Sweeney,

The Hoosier Art Salon, and our relationship with Riley Children's Hospital, but the future is our motivation, and our future is bright!

As National Vice President, one of my responsibilities was to review our membership numbers, and as I begin to speak to you about our future, I would be remiss if I did not mention that our membership numbers have continued decrease over the years. This is something that we need to be mindful of, especially when it comes to funding our national projects down the road. However, over the past two years we have initiated 161 new members. I am hopeful that you are discovering new ways to attract members, and that our membership will continue an upward trend moving forward.

Another way we've shown our future is bright is by sticking together and surviving the pandemic when numerous other organizations could not sustain themselves. Several chapters discovered Zoom meetings and are continuing to Zoom or call into meetings instead of missing them to this day. We discovered that we can be present wherever we are. We've had someone attend a meeting on their cell phone while sitting in the parking lot at Walmart. You don't miss anything, and you don't feel left out.

Due to supply and demand, some chapters had to decrease the number of fundraisers. By doing so they have discovered they aren't feeling so burnt out from selling so much, and they've started to enjoy the company of their sisters again instead of their meetings and socials just feeling like it's all work. You have reported an increase in some of your fundraising efforts because others are purchasing your items from Facebook. That is awesome, and a great way to support each other.

Our future is bright because some of you are thinking long-term and have created legacies in your communities. A legacy is about learning from the past, living in the

present, and building for the future. In 2020 my chapter celebrated 100 years of serving our community, but a few years prior to that, after hosting the 2016 Indiana State Meeting, we decided to establish an Endowment Fund. Our chapter felt that it was important for Psi lota Xi to leave a permanent legacy in our community. Our goal is to build this endowment so that one day it will financially support our speech and hearing clinics.

Our national organization received a monetary gift enabling us to purchase a certificate of deposit. When the time is right, we will invest the money to grow long-term savings that will feed into our Project Fund to continue to support our worthwhile projects.

The best way to predict your chapter's future is to create it, through increasing membership, strengthening the relationships between your chapter sisters, and establishing a legacy in your community that will live on into the future.

As we go through this next year together, I would be honored to attend your chapter's activities, so please think of me if your chapter is celebrating a milestone or if you

could use an extra pair of hands with a fundraiser. I will make every attempt to be present if I can.

The Upsilon chapter is thrilled to invite you to the 2025 National Convention in Indianapolis. We will spend the weekend getting back to our roots of Art, Literature and Music. The Sheraton Hotel located at Keystone Crossing recently completed a one-million-dollar renovation, and they are looking forward to welcoming Psi Iota Xi back.

Thank you again for all that you do in the name of Psi Iota Xi.

# Chapter Anniversaries

#### 120 Years

SE – Epsilon, Columbus, IN SW – Zeta, Bloomington, IN

#### 115 Years

NW - Beta Psi, Delphi, IN

#### 110 Years

NW – Beta Xi, Crown Point, IN EC – Beta Pi, Cambridge City, IN

#### 105 Years

NE - Pi, Fort Wayne, IN

#### 100 Years

EC – Alpha Iota, Richmond, IN WC – Alpha Lambda, Zionsville, IN

#### 95 Years

NE – Beta Gamma, Peru, IN NE – Beta Epsilon, Mentone, IN

#### 70 Years

EC - Gamma Tau, Marion, IN

#### 65 Years

NW – Zeta Theta, Niles, MI, IN SE – Zeta Iota, Louisville, KY, IN SE – Zeta Lambda, Connersville, IN SW – Zeta Mu, Jasper, IN

#### 60 Years

SE – Zeta Tau, Milroy, IN

#### 55 Years

NW – Eta Nu, Rensselaer, IN NE – Eta Omicron, Kalamazoo, MI

#### 50 Years

NE - Theta Tau, Midland, MI

#### 20 Years

WC – Iota Sigma, St. Joseph, IL

#### **5 Years**

SE – Iota Pi, Clarksburg, IN SE – Iota Chi, LaGrange, KY



## National Council



**Taffy Day** National Vice President Omega - Lebanon, IN



Sandie Carlson National Secretary Theta Kappa - Edon, OH



**Mona Knight**National Treasurer
Iota Theta - Armstrong, IL



**Terri Resler** National Project Chair Alpha Psi - Washington, IN



Valerie Helms-Mejia National Conductress Alpha - Muncie, IN



**Jane Patton**National Editor
Alpha Omicron - Vincennes, IN



Lauren Huyvaert Northeast District Officer Gamma Sigma, South Bend



Pam Gunterman Northwest District Officer Theta Delta, Bremen



Beth Vipond
East Central District Officer
Gamma Tau, Marion



Missy Cooper
West Central District Officer
Gamma Nu, Brownsburg



Carol Good Southeast District Officer Alpha Theta, Charlestown



Erin Schroering Southwest District Officer Iota Lambda, Ferdinand

### 2024-2025 National & State Contacts

#### NATIONAL COUNCIL

#### **NATIONAL PRESIDENT**

Mickie Hansen (Rusty) 3822 E 700 N Greenfield, IN 46140 C: 317-402-6409 mickiehansen@psiiotaxi.org Upsilon, Greenfield, IN

#### **NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT**

Taffy Day (Steve) 620 West Camp Street Lebanon, IN 46052 C: 317-371-7813 taffyday@psiiotaxi.org Omega, Lebanon, IN

#### **NATIONAL SECRETARY**

Sandie Carlson (Todd) 306 East Indiana Street Edon, OH 43518 C: 419-324-4086 sandiecarlson@psiiotaxi.org Theta Kappa, Edon, OH

#### **NATIONAL TREASURER**

Mona Knight (Brad) 24484 N 500 East Road Armstrong, IL 61812 C: 217-621-2321 monaknight@psiiotaxi.org lota Theta, Armstrong, IL

#### **NATIONAL ADVISOR**

Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery (Greg) PO Box 27 Pleasant Lake, IN 46779 C: 419-236-0263 rhondamcnallcrisenbery@psiiotaxi.org Theta Theta, Fort Wayne, IN

#### **NATIONAL PROJECT CHAIR**

Terri Resler 1761 Raglesville Road Loogootee, IN 47553 C: 812-295-6524 terriresler@psiiotaxi.org Alpha Psi, Washington, IN

#### **NATIONAL CONDUCTRESS**

Valerie Helms-Mejia (Carlos) 3626 N Lakeside Dr. Muncie, IN 47304 C: 765-749-2005 valeriehelmsmejia@psiiotaxi.org Alpha, Muncie, IN

#### **NATIONAL EDITOR**

Jane Patton (Chris) 929 S Sycamore Street Martinsville, IN 46151 C: 812-881-9064 janepatton@psiiotaxi.org Alpha Omicron, Vincennes, IN

#### DISTRICT OFFICERS

#### NORTHEAST DISTRICT OFFICER

Lauren Huyvaert 18356 Abbot Ct South Bend, IN 46637 C: 574-276-2783 laurenhuyvaert@psiiotaxi.org Gamma Sigma, South Bend, IN

#### **NORTHWEST DISTRICT OFFICER**

Pam Gunterman 193 Oakmont Drive Bremen, IN 46506 C: 574-286-6866 pamgunterman@psiiotaxi.org Theta Delta, Bremen, IN

#### **EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT OFFICER**

Beth Vipond (Bruce) 804 S Washington St Marion, IN 46953 C: 765-661-2789 bethvipond@psiiotaxi.org Gamma Tau, Marion, IN

#### **WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT OFFICER**

Melissa (Missy) Cooper (Eric) 50 Trotters Run Brownsburg, IN 46112 C: 317-605-4567 missycooper@psiiotaxi.org Gamma Nu, Brownsburg, IN

#### **SOUTHEAST DISTRICT OFFICER**

Carol Good (David)
1210 Allentown Road
Sellersburg, IN 47172
C: 765-242-6072
carolgood@psiiotaxi.org
Alpha Theta, Charlestown, IN

#### SOUTHWEST DISTRICT OFFICER

Erin Schroering (Jason) 4999 Deer Trl Huntingburg, IN 47542 C: 812-639-8973 erinschroering@psiiotaxi.org lota Lambda, Ferdinand, IN

#### STATE PRESDIENTS

#### **INDIANA**

Vitoria (Tori) Harrell 1811 Brandon Ave Marion, IN 46952 765-517-4650 Victoria@mankin-law.com

#### **KENTUCKY**

Ashley Darnell 1010 E Mailback Way Crestwood, KY 40014 504-415-3173 Ashley.lyon09@yahoo.com

#### NATIONAL ADDRESSES

#### **NATIONAL OFFICE**

Psi Iota Xi National Office 3905 Vincennes Road, Suite 303 Indianapolis, IN 46268 317-471-3512 www.psiiotaxi.org info@psiiotaxi.org

#### **President, Past Presidents Club**

Brenda Bonner, PNP 990 E 50 N Flora, IN 46929 psiotegirl@gmail.com

#### **National Memorial Fund**

Sara Overway, PNP 211 Princeton Lane Logansport, IN 46947 574-721-3586 sarapix@comcast.net

#### Official Jeweler

J. Lewis Small & Company Mary Israel 9147 W 1000 N PO Box 426 Elwood, IN 46036 800-354-7356 (phone) 765-552-2759 (fax) misrael@jlewissmall.com

#### **National Accounting Firm**

Applegate & Company CPA 1421 South Woodland Ave. Michigan City, IN 46360 219-871-7880 www.applecpa.com PIX Accountant: Charlie Fox Office Admin: Erin Colón

## 2024-2025 Project Respresentatives

#### **NATIONAL PROJECTS**

#### American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation

2200 Research Blvd Rockville, Maryland 20850-3289 301-296-8700 Project Rep: Sharon Moss Smoss@asha.org

#### **Bethel University Sign Language Interpreting Program**

1001 Bethel Circle Mishawaka, IN 46545 Project Rep: Laura Polhemus 574-807-7156 laura.polhemus@betheluniversity.edu

#### **Camp Shout Out**

P.O. BOX 5336 Muskegon, MI 49445 Project Rep: Julie Raynor, MA, CCC-SLP 231-744-9260 office@campshoutout.org

#### **Hear Indiana**

4740 Kingsway Drive, Suite 33 Indianapolis, IN 46205 Project Rep: Ellyn McCall 317-828-0211 ellyn.mccall@hearindiana.org

#### **Hoosier Art Salon**

c/o Stutz Business Center 212 W 10<sup>th</sup> Street, B245 Indianapolis, IN 46202 www.hoosiersalon.org Contact: Mike Quinn

President, Hoosier Salon Board of Directors 317-443-1097 lockrbmike@aol.com

#### **Little Peeps**

Hearing and Speech Center 350 Henry Clay Blvd. Lexington, KY 40502 Project Rep: Brooke Traud 859-268-4545 Brooke.Traud@lhscky.org

#### Met Opera

Met Opera Laffont Competition Central Region William Smith, Treasurer PO Box 599 Wilmette, IL 60091 765-238-0300

#### **Music Therapy Studio**

Riley Cheer Guild Ann Hannon, MSML, MT-BC Riley Hospital for Children at IU Health 705 Riley Hospital Drive RM4510 Indianapolis, IN 46202 317-944-8705 ahannan@iuhealth.org

#### **Past National President's Project**

Gallaudet University Field House 800 Florida Ave, NE Washington, DC 20002-3695

#### **Riley Children's Foundation**

Melissa Sexton 30 S. Meridian St., Suite 200 Indianapolis, IN 46204 317-759-6946 msexton@rileykids.org

#### **Silver Strings Dulcimer Program**

Kara Barnard kara@karassilverstrings.com

#### St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf

9192 Waldemar Road Indianapolis, IN 46268 Project Rep: Cindy Timmermann 317-471-8560 CTimmermann@sjid.org

#### SYMPHONY CONTACTS

Psi Iota Xi Symphony and Elsie I. Sweeney Endowment Funds: Central Indiana Community Foundation 615 North Alabama St., Ste 300 Indianapolis, IN 46204-1498 317-631-6542, ext.506

#### **South Bend Symphony**

Steven Stamer 127 North Michigan Street South Bend, IN 46601 574-232-6343 sstamer@southbendsymphony.org www.SouthBendSymphony.org

#### **Orchestra Indiana**

Dr. James Thompson 2000 W University Ave Muncie, IN 47306 765-285-5531 education@orchestraindiana.org https://orchestraindiana.org

#### **Indianapolis Symphony**

Elizabeth Whipkey 32 E Washington St Ste 600 Indianapolis, IN 46204 Office: 317-262-1100 ext 6793 317-231-6793 ewhipkey@indianapolissymphony.org http://www.indianapolisSymphony.org

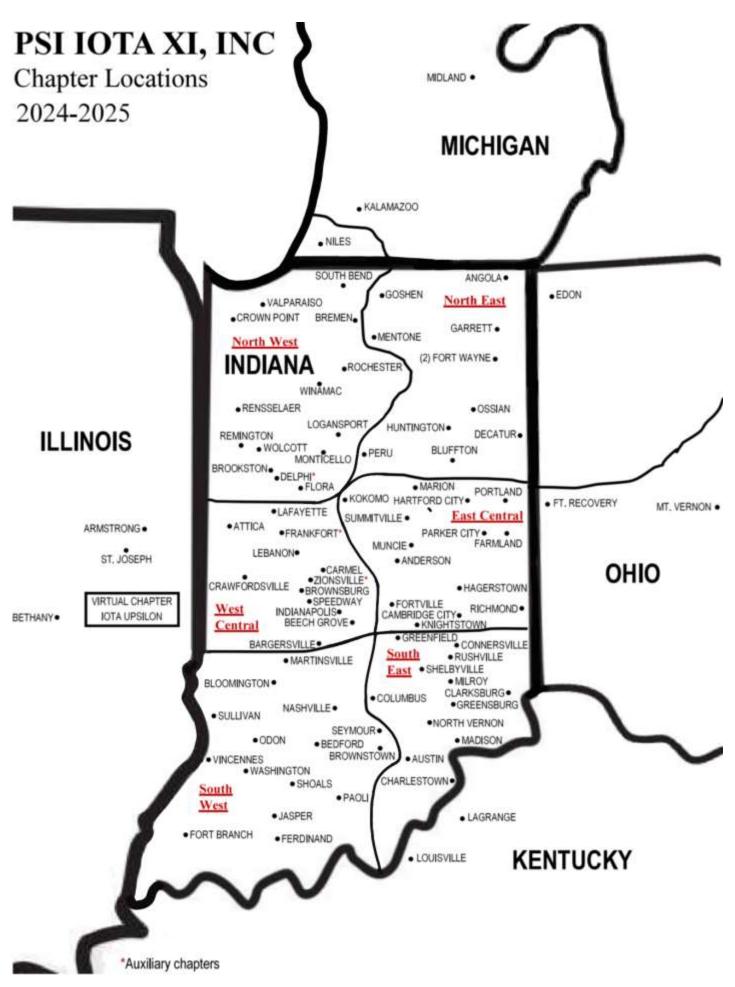
#### **Evansville Philharmonic**

Jeanne Bundy 600 Main St Evansville, IN 47708 812-425-5050, ext 300 jbundy@evansvillephilharmonic.org http://www.evansvillephilharmonic.org



#### **Psi Iota Xi Insurance Carrier**

Nelson Insurance Agency 2000 Envoy Circle Louisville, KY 40299 502-736-7000 Agent: Joe McKune joem@nelsoninsurancegroup.com West Bend Insurance
1-866-926-4244
To obtain a certificate of insurance
call West Bend Insurance or email:
 customercare@wbmi.com
Put Psi lota Xi in the subject line and
reference policy # A804887.



#### **CHAPTER INDEX**

#### (Chapter—Town—District and Page Listing)

Alpha - Muncie - EC	5,42,81
Epsiton - Columbus - SE	58
Zeta-Bloomington-SW	17, 20, 66
lota - Rushville - SE	16,58
Kappa - Anderson - EC	42
Pi-FortWayne -NE	12, 16, 17, 18, 28
Rho-Angola -NE	28
Sigma-Greensburg-SE	12,58
Upsilon - Greenfield - SE	5,20,58,78
Phi-Huntington -NE	28
Chi-Brookston-NW	
Omega-Lebanon-WC	5,12,49,81
AlphaBeta-Seymour-SW	66
Alpha Delta - Decatur - NE	20
AlphaEta - Blufton - NE	16, 21, 29
AlphaTheta-Charlestown-SE	5,57,59,81
Alphalota - Richmond - EC	42
AlphaLambda - Zionsville - WC	49
AlphaMu - Hartford City - EC	
AlphaXi -Logansport -NW	35
AlphaOmicron - Vincennes - SW	5,65,66,81
AlphaRho - Garrett - NE	29
Alpha Phi - Fortville - EC	43
AlphaChi -Hagerstown - EC	12,44
Alpha Psi - Washington - SW	5,12,67,81
AlphaOmega-NorthVemon-SE	60
BetaAlpha-Flora-NW	12, 16, 17, 35
BetaBeta-Sullivan -SW	67
BetaGamma - Peru - NE	30
BetaEpsilon -Mentone -NE	30
BetaZeta-Summitville -EC	8,44

Betalota-Farmland-EC	
BetaLambda -Bedford -SW	13,67
BetaMu-Brownstown-SW	68
BetaXi - Crown Point - NW	20, 36
BetaPi - Cambridge City - EC	45
BetaRho - Goshen - NE	31
BetaSigma - Austin - SE	60
BetaTau -Frankfort -WC	12, 21, 49
Beta-Upsilon - Mt. Vernon, OH - EC	45
BetaPhi - Shelbyville - SE	60
BetaPsi - Delphi - NW	
Gamma Alpha - Portland - EC	21,45
Gamma Beta - Remington - NW	21, 37
Gamma Delta - Attica - WC	51
Gamma Zeta - Ossian -NE	31
Gamma Eta - Knightstown - EC	46
Gamma Theta - Speedway - EC	51
Gamma lota -Shoals -SW	68
Gamma Nu - Brownsburg - WC	5, 12, 48, 52, 81
Gamma Xi -Crawfordsville -WC	14, 20, 52
Gamma Sigma - South Bend - NW	5,27,37,81
Gamma Tau-Marion - EC	5,14,41,46,81
Gamma Upsilon -Wolcott -NW	38
DeltaZeta-Lafayette -WC	50
ZetaBeta-Anderson -EC	12,47
Zeta Gamma - Fort Branch - SW	5,12,68
Zeta Epsilon - Bargersville - WC	53
ZetaTheta - Niles, MI - NW	38
Zetalota - Louisville, KY-SE	13,61
ZetaLambda-Connersville-SE	61
ZetaMu-Jasper -SW	2,18,69

ZetaXi-Madison-SE	62
ZetaTau -Milroy -SE	62
EtaAlpha - Nashville , SW	69
Eta Gamma -Valparaiso - NW	12,38
EtaDelta-Carmel-WC	53
EtaZeta - Nappane e - NE	31
Etalota - Parker City - EC	20, 47
EtaLambda - Beech Grove - WC	54
EtaMu-Rochester-NW	38
EtaNu-Rensselaer -NW	39
EtaOmicron - Kalamazoo, MI - NE	31
EtaChi - Martinsville - SW	70
ThetaBeta - Paoli - SW	70
ThetaDelta - Bremen - NW	5,34,39,81
ThetaZeta - Fort Recovery, OH - EC	12, 47
Theta Theta - Fort Wayne - NE	4,5,32
Thetalota-Monticello-NW	40
Theta Kappa - Edon, OH - NE	5,6, 12, 32, 81
ThetaNu - Lexington, KY - SE	62
Theta Psi - Bethany, IL - WC	54
Theta Tau - Midland, MI - NE	32
lotaTheta-Armstrong IL-WC	5,10,12,55,71
lotaLambda - Ferdinand - SW	71,81
lotaXi-Winamac-NW	40
lotaRho -Odon -SW	21,71
lotaSigma -St.Joseph, IL -WC	55
lotaTau-Indianapolis-WC	56
lotaUpsilon-Virtual-WC	56
lotaPhi - Clarksburg - SE	63
lota Chi - La Grange, KY - SE	15, 21, 63

### **GREEK LETTER KEY**

Alpha (al-fah)

lota (eye-o-tah)

> Rho (roe)

Sigma

(sig-mah)

Beta

(bay-tah)

Lambda Kappa (cap-pah) (lamb-dah)

> Tau (taw)

Gamma

(gam-ah)

Delta (del-ta)

Mu

(mew) Upsilon

(up-si-lon)

Epsilon (ep-si-lon)

Nu (new)

Phi

(fie)

Zeta

(zay-tah)

Eta (ay-tah)

Omicron

(om-e-cron)

Psi (sigh)

Pi (pie)

Theta

(thay-tah)

Omega (oh-may-gah)



Psi Iota Xi • 3905 Vincennes Road, Suite 303 • Indianapolis, IN 43268