

August 2025

KAPPA KEYNOTES

Charlotte Kappa Kappa Gamma Alumnae Association



Letter from the President

Greetings Kappa Alumnae! I hope this newsletter finds you well and that you have had a great summer so far. As I begin my second year as President, I want to say thank you to the wonderful women of this organization. It is such a joy to serve as your President, and I look forward to each of our meetings. I get to learn new things, read new books, meet new friends, and build relationships with each of you. Last spring we held our Kentucky Derby auction as our final event of the year. With horse betting, a hat contest, and an auction, we were able to raise more than \$5,200 to benefit NAMI, Hopeway, and the Kappa Foundation! This was only possible through the generosity of our donors and attendees. It truly is a privilege to be a member of an organization like Kappa with women who support causes near to our hearts.

The 2025-2026 Board of Directors is pleased to provide you with this newsletter full of exciting programming and special interest group events for Kappas in the Charlotte area. Last year we had so much fun with favorite events like Park Road Books and Hot Glass Alley which was a huge hit! If you couldn't make it to many events last year, we have plenty of interesting events planned for you to join us at this year!

Whether you're a new graduate, young professional, busy mom, working professional, empty nester, or retiree, Kappa has something to offer you. I encourage everyone to jump in (or jump back in) to sisterhood by joining us for one, or more, of our events this year. A great way to stay in the know about all of our events and special interest group meetings is to pay your dues by October 31st. Our membership form and dues information are included in this newsletter and on our website.

Join us for our kick-off event, the Blue & Blue Brunch, on Saturday, August 23rd at the home of Jennifer Huffstetler! This is a great opportunity to meet new people and see old friends.

Loyally,
Sarah Swanson, President 2025-2026

Stay Connected!

There are many ways to keep up with what is happening with KKG and the Charlotte Kappa Alumnae Association.

Please update your address, email and phone number with KKG at: <https://www.kappakappagamma.org/>

Join Charlotte Alumnae Association of Kappa Kappa Gamma on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/136919206338268/>

Follow us on Instagram at: <https://www.instagram.com/cltkkgalumnae/>

or scan the QR code here to pull up our website and links to all social media platforms



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2025-2026 Board Members

President	Sarah Swanson	swanee6793@gmail.com	704-778-2683
1st VP of Events	Suzy Johnson	sugar.suzy2@gmail.com	704-661-0860
1st VP of Events	Cathy Madaury	cwmadaury@me.com	704-562-3468
2nd VP of Philanthropy	Sydney Nease	neasesydney@gmail.com	864-205-7149
2nd VP of Philanthropy	OPEN		
Director of Membership	Tiger Batlas	tigerbatlas10@gmail.com	412-443-8262
Director of Finance	Patsy Langmade	patsyl2218@gmail.com	602-292-8807
Director of Communications	Kelly Pierson	kpp411@hotmail.com	704-458-3223
Director of Communications	Libby Poston	libby.poston@gmail.com	919-538-1412
Member at Large	Adelaide Craver	adelaidecraver@yahoo.com	704-651-0714
Member at Large	Camille McDowell	camilesweger@gmail.com	520-954-5421
Member at Large	Suzan Becker	suzanbecker@yahoo.com	704-576-3580
Kappa Cares Chair	Brianna Pierce	briannapierce@carolina.rr.com	704-608-2414
Panhellenic Chair	Martha Gerrick	pktkkg@yahoo.com	803-622-0587
Reference Chair	Rachel Morgan	raedae1@gmail.com	704-450-9869
Kappa Konnect/Night Owls	Gabby Colarusso	gcolarus@gmail.com	615-427-8957
Lunch Bunch	Jeanie Brown	jeansbster@gmail.com	704-807-6388
Supper Club	Suzy Johnson	sugar.suzy2@gmail.com	704-661-0860
Book Club	Joannah Long	joannahrlong@gmail.com	704-608-2124
Walking/Hiking Club	Diane Althouse	dianealt33@gmail.com	704-201-3993
Walking/Hiking Club	Jennifer Huffstetler	jenh.huff@gmail.com	704-488-2205
Kappas Exits 23 to 36	Mary Ford	marycampbellford@gmail.com	402-310-4033

If you're a recent graduate, new to the area or looking to re-engage, one way to meet new people is to get involved. Getting involved is as simple as attending or co-hosting a meeting, volunteering for a committee, or bringing a Kappa with you to a meeting. Having an involved active Alumnae Association ensures we can all benefit from our Kappa Alumnae organization.

We need volunteers to join and serve with our Board. We currently have one open position. We are seeking a volunteer to help Sydney Nease as our VP of Philanthropy. If you are interested in learning more, please email Sarah Swanson or seek out any board member at our upcoming Blue & Blue Brunch. Finally, if you are interested in serving on the nominating committee for the 2025-2026 Board of Directors, please indicate your interest on the membership form.

KKG Annual Dues Paying Made Easy!

New Grads (graduated 2022 or after): \$50.00

Charlotte Alumnae Members: \$75.00

Philanthropy Fund Contribution: *Optional

Beneficiaries include Rose McGill Holiday Fund, Kappa Cares, KKG Foundation, NAMI and HopeWay.

Four ways to pay:

1. Bring your checkbook and completed membership form to the Blue and Blue Brunch (preferred).
2. Mail your check and completed membership form to: Patsy Langmade at 1425 Winnifred Street, Unit 518, Charlotte, NC 28203.
3. Pay online at <https://charlotte.kappa.org/pay-dues>
4. Use the QR Code to pay via PayPal and separately mail completed membership form to Patsy Langmade.



Don't forget to complete your membership forms! We need to be sure that we have your accurate information and Interest Group preferences. Interest Group sign-up does not automatically roll over from the prior year.

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Key Programs & Meetings

Blue & Blue Brunch

Join fellow Kappas from chapters all over the nation as we kick off the 2025-2026 year! We look forward to welcoming new graduates as well as long time members! Brunch is provided by board members.

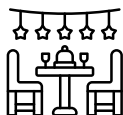
Saturday, August 23rd, 10:30 am
Hostess: Jennifer Huffstetler, *Wisconsin*
4720 McAlpine Farm Road, Charlotte



How to Effortlessly Entertain

DeeDee Dalrymple, owner of My Effortless Entertaining and author of "Effortless Entertaining...Open Your Home, Open Your Heart, and Give the Gift of Hospitality", will inspire you with new ideas and practical strategies for hosting your next dinner party or event. She will share how to get everything ready on time and where to find perfect and affordable glassware, serving pieces, and linens. We will start the evening at Diane Althouse's apartment and then move upstairs to DeeDee Dalrymple's apartment. We will open up the speaker event to friends - if necessary - to meet an attendance minimum.

Tuesday, September 23rd, 6:00pm
Hostess: Diane Althouse, *Babson College*
2633 Richardson Dr. #5B, Charlotte



155th Kappa Founders Day Celebration

Celebrate the founding of our Fraternity with your fellow Charlotte Alumnae sisters and re-visit some of the rituals that bind us. 25-year members will be honored. 50, 65 and 75-year member pins will be presented. This will be a potluck event.

Wednesday, October 8th, 6:30 pm
Hostess: Sandy Keane, *Colorado*
4816 Park Phillips Court, Charlotte



NAMI Walks Charlotte

November is a great time to get outside and go for a walk. Why not combine that with supporting our mental health philanthropy, NAMI, and spending time with your Kappa sisters? We can raise money for NAMI and enjoy the morning. NAMI strives to make an unprecedented impact on mental health in our community.

Saturday, November 8th, 10:00am - 12:00pm
Mint Museum Randolph
2730 Randolph Rd, Charlotte



Love to Read?

Sally Brewster, the owner of Charlotte's favorite independent book seller - Park Road Books, will share recommendations on 2026 books and authors to enjoy. Sally is always informative and, of course, you will undoubtedly come away with gift ideas for family and friends. This is always a popular event each year!

Wednesday, November 19th, 6:30pm
Park Road Books at Park Road Shopping Center
4139 Park Road, Charlotte,



Kappa Co-Ed Holiday Party

Celebrate the holidays with Kappa. Bring along your significant other, or a friend and celebrate the season of joy and cheer at this potluck event.

Friday, December 12th, 6:30 pm
Hostess: Suzy Johnson, *West Virginia*
1024 Southstone Drive, Charlotte



BraveWorks - Learn, Sip, Shop

Learn about the mission and services of BraveWorks while sipping and shopping 'artisan-made goods that transform lives. BraveWorks, formed in 2015, serves women in the US, Africa, and South/Central America and strives to empower women overcoming trauma and injustice. Street parking is available as well as limited parking directly behind the house. The house and products sold are amazing and worth a visit - even if you can't make this event.

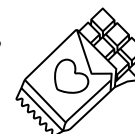
Thursday, January 22nd, 6:30pm
BraveWorks
1717 Cleveland Ave, Charlotte



Galentine's - Champagne, Bubbly and Chocolate, oh my!

What could be better than celebrating Galentine's with your Kappa sisters while enjoying champagne and chocolate! Tryon Distributing will provide tastings of fine champagnes and Cremant, a French bubbly made in the same tradition of champagnes but from adjacent regions. We will also enjoy tasting award-winning, small-batch chocolate by Marvin Lynch through Marvin Confection. There will be a \$25 fee to cover the cost of the event.

Tuesday, February 24th, 6:30pm
Hostess: Patty Smith, *Michigan State*
7213 Baltusrol Lane, Charlotte



Etiquette Tips for Success

Carol Anderson of Sterling Etiquette will share important etiquette lessons updated for today's contemporary social and work environment. Carol studied under Phillip Sykes, who established The British School of Excellence, an institution with the motto "Transform your confidence, refine your professionalism, become unstoppable."

Tuesday, March 24th, 6:30 pm
Hostess: Kathryn Martin, *College of William & Mary*
2718 Picardy Place, Charlotte



Country BBQ & Mental Health Fundraiser

Bring along your significant other or a friend and celebrate spring in the countryside at Sara Pressly's farm in Weddington, Hopewell. This event will also be a fundraiser to support The Kappa Foundation, NAMI, and HopeWay. Stay tuned for additional details!

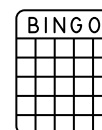
Saturday, April 18th, 5:00pm - 8:00pm
Hostess: Sara Pressly, *UNC Chapel Hill*
Hopewell, 8559 New Town Road, Weddington



Kappa BINGO

Join us for a lively Kappa-themed BINGO competition with prizes! This will be a fun event of camaraderie and celebration for the end of our program year.

Thursday, May 14th, 4:30pm
Hostess: Suzy Johnson, *West Virginia*
1024 Southstone Drive, Charlotte



As a gentle reminder, some monthly meetings are planned far in advance. Our desire is that what is included in this newsletter doesn't change, but meeting locations, times and events are subject to change. The best way to stay up to date on all things Charlotte Kappa is to pay your dues. After October 31st, non-dues paying members will no longer receive invites to monthly meetings or special interest group gatherings.

Special Interest Groups

Night Owls

Night Owls is for anyone! The goal is to create community while participating in fun activities after the work day and on weekends. Join the GroupMe and share any ideas for a future event. Please reach out to Gabby Colarusso with any interest or questions.

Friday, September 19th | 7pm
Partners 'n' Pickleball at MLK Park
Bring your partner or a friend for
unserious games of pickleball

Wednesday, October 22nd | 7pm
Pumpkin Painting at Sydney Nease's House
3005 Kenninghall Ct, Charlotte, NC 28269



Book Club

Calling all bookworms and bibliophiles! Join your Kappa sisters for lively discussions and conversations about inspiring and engaging books. Meetings are held every four to eight weeks. Please email Joannah Long for more information.

Monday, August 4th | 6:45 pm
Location: Carrie Sinclair's Home
Broken Country by Clare Leslie Hall

Monday, September 15th | 6:45 pm
Location: Rhino Market in SouthPark
James by Percival Everett

October: All The Other Mothers Hate Me by Sarah Harman
November: The Life Cycle of the Common Octopus by Emma Knight

Dates for our October and November meetings will be set collectively by book club participants.

Supper Club

Supper Club will have four (or more) different groups and these groups will stay together for the year, with the first gathering in September and meeting every other month through May.

How will this work? One person per group will organize/assign host months to members in their group. This way each individual/couple will take their turn to host the gathering and set the theme, menu and venue. If space is an issue, the host can choose a restaurant venue where the group will gather (each couple responsible for their own bill). Alternatively, the host can hold the event at their home and set the date, time, theme and provide a sign up sheet for everyone to contribute a dish and their preferred drink.

We hope you sign up to participate! You can sign up as a single or couple for Supper Club.

Lunch Bunch

Join all ages of Kappas for conversation and a delicious lunch each month. We typically meet on the first Monday or Tuesday of each month. Sign up on the membership form to receive monthly evites. Please remember to RSVP. Schedule is subject to change.

Thursday, August 28th | 12:00pm
Location: Yassou Greek Cuisine
1039 Providence Rd, Charlotte

Monday, September 22nd | 12:00pm
Location: Sara Pressley's farm in Weddington
Additional Details to Follow

Tuesday, October 21st | 12:00pm
Location: Yanni Bistro
131 E. John St, Matthews

Monday, November 17th | 12:00pm
Location: 3rd and Fernwood
1100 Metropolitan Ave, Ste 170

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Special Interest Groups Continued

Charlotte Kappas Exits 23 to 36

We are launching a new Kappa interest group this year: Charlotte Kappas Exits 23 to 26.

If you live in the Huntersville area or above, including Cornelius, Mooresville, Davidson, Denver, we encourage you to participate in our newest Kappa interest group.

Mary Campbell Ford will be organizing happy hour gatherings or lunches for all who sign up to participate.

Walking/Hiking Club

The Kappa Walking/Hiking Club will meet every other month for a 3-5 mile walk/hike. We meet for lunch after the hike. Sign up to receive invitations to participate.

Our main event this fall is the NAMI walk on Saturday, November 6th at 10:00am. We are happy to support NAMI as a sponsor of this walk. Full details are available on the Key Programs & Meetings page.

Kappa Wine Fund

If you enjoy having a glass of wine (or two) at the Kappa meetings, please consider donating \$10-\$20 to offset the cost of our hostesses serving wine. Donations will be collected at each meeting starting with the Blue & Blue Brunch. Cheers!



Kappa National Philanthropy

As Kappas nationwide become advocates for mental health, we can be bold in making a change in the communities around us. The Charlotte Alumnae Association has chosen the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and locally based HopeWay in pledging our commitment to support mental health and well-being in the community. The current board is proud to continue building and deepening relationships with these organizations. Contributions from our Monthly Meeting Raffles and BBQ Fundraiser in April will go to support NAMI, HopeWay, and the Kappa Foundation.

NAMI works to support, educate, advocate, listen and lead to improve the lives of people with mental illness and their loved ones.

HopeWay is a local mental health treatment organization that provides best practice behavioral health care and education for clients and their families.

The Kappa Foundation equips women with the resources to spark change and preserve values established by our beloved founders.



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Special Member Milestones

The Charlotte Alumnae Association is pleased to recognize local women celebrating milestones in their Kappa lives. We will honor those celebrating 25, 50, and 65 years as a Kappa at this year's Founders Day Celebration on October 10th. We hope you can join us in celebrating these lovely ladies and their loyalty to Kappa!

50 Years

Susan Derner Apple, *Syracuse University*
Julie Hancock Armistead, *Colorado College*
Susan Feather, *University of Toronto*
Deryle Ivey Hunter, *Durham*
Lisa Hutting, *Durham*
Betsy Stone Keiger, *University of North Carolina*
Anne Sabiston Leggett, *Durham*
Laurene Mann, *Michigan State University*
Linda Hancharik Muskelley, *St. Lawrence University*
Kathleen Kelly O'Bannon, *Louisiana State University*
Paula Reed Percer, *University of North Carolina*
Marion Crowley Scherger, *University of North Carolina*
Natalie Millions Scott, *University of South Carolina*
Cynthia Weers, *University of North Carolina*
Linda Mountjoy Winn, *University of Georgia*
Nancy Slater Young, *Purdue University*

65 Years

Virginia Davenport Capps, *Pennsylvania State University*
Patricia Hooper Everhardus, *University of Michigan*
Nancy Patten Goolsby, *University of North Carolina*
Shirley Buturla Graham, *University of Connecticut*
Mary Evans Horsley, *University of Alabama*
Constance Moore Hughes, *Rollins College*
Sally Hamilton Moore, *University of Mississippi*
Ione Sheppard O'Hara, *University of North Carolina*
Sherron Rumbaugh Oyler, *West Virginia University*
Shirley Maffett Shtuck, *University of Georgia*

75 Years

Anne Hadley Behrend, *Tulane University*
Babara Couch Holbeck, *Hillsdale College*
Ann Porter Rooks, *University of Miami*

**25 Year Kappas will also be honored at Founders Day.
Space limitations restrict inclusion here.**

Panhellenic

Charlotte Panhellenic has had another active year! Thanks to our AutoBell gift card fundraiser and our 50/50 raffle, won by our own Sarah Swanson, we supported a Panhellenic Day and multiple scholarships for undergraduate women. Our Panhellenic Day was held at UNC-Charlotte on January 25th and was attended by Panhellenic delegates and chapter officers from Lenoir-Rhyne University, Queens University, and UNC-Charlotte to assist in successful Panhellenic cooperation and promotion of Greek Life. We also awarded two \$1,000 scholarships to Panhellenic undergraduates at UNC-Charlotte from our established endowment. This year we also rolled out an undergraduate Panhellenic scholarship for women who live in the Charlotte Metro area, no matter what school they attend. We had 31 applicants from Clemson, South Carolina, Queens, Wingate, Central Florida, Appalachian State, and Florida State. The winners of the two Charlotte Metro \$1,000 scholarships were Brooke Lampe, Kappa Delta, Appalachian State University and Maura O'Toole, Phi Mu, Queens University. Thank you for supporting Charlotte Alumnae Panhellenic fundraisers as your gift card and raffle ticket purchases allow us to promote Greek Life and support scholarships for outstanding Panhellenic undergraduate women.

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CHARLOTTE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP & DUES FORM

Membership dues cover the per-capita fee to Fraternity Headquarters as well as supporting local member events and association operations. Payment of annual dues by October 31st, 2025, entitles you to receive invitations to attend monthly programming, interest group and signature events, a digital copy of the member directory, association updates, and evites.

NAME _____
First Preferred Maiden Last

ADDRESS _____
Street Address City State Zip Code

MOBILE PHONE _____ EMAIL _____
Specify if land-line

UNIVERSITY _____ INITIATION YEAR _____

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS: Please check all groups in which you are interested.
(The chair for each group will contact you with further information.)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch Bunch | <input type="checkbox"/> Supper Club |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Book Club | <input type="checkbox"/> Walking / Hiking Club |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Night Owls | <input type="checkbox"/> Kappas Exits 23 to 36 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bylaws Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> 2026-2027 Nominating Committee |

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

- **Preferred method:** Payment via check made payable to Kappa Kappa Gamma Alumnae Assoc. may be brought to one of our events or mailed to: **Patsy Langmade at 1425 Winnifred Street, Unit 518, Charlotte, NC 28203**
- Payment via PayPal or any major credit card by using this QR code, the PayPal app, or online at <http://charlotte.kappa.org/pay-dues>.



Completed membership forms are required regardless of payment method.

Membership forms may be brought to one of our events or mailed to Patsy Langmade at the address above.

If paying online, an electronic membership form can be found at <http://charlotte.kappa.org/pay-dues>.

Membership Dues: \$_____ \$75 members; \$50 within 3 years of graduation (May 2022 or after)

Philanthropy & Kappa Cares Fund Contribution: (optional) \$_____

(Philanthropic efforts benefiting from this fund include Rose McGill Holiday Sharing, The Kappa Kappa Gamma Foundation, NAMI, Hope Way and other specially selected local non-profits.)

Total Enclosed: \$_____ If paid via PayPal, check here: _____

Payment is kindly requested by October 31st, 2025