

# *Anchor Clanker*



*Spring 2021*

## Virtual Founders Day 2021

During a year like no other, we came together virtually to celebrate Founders Day on March 14, 2020. Thank you to all those who made Founders Day happen: Coordinator Erin MacAlpin and Emcee Nancy Frost Smith. Also thank you to all members who participated in the programming by doing readings and Jacquie Staric who made our badge pillows.

### Hope Award

Presented to alumnae who demonstrated unusual loyalty and devotion with Delta Gamma Service far beyond normal alumnae participation for at least 5 years.



Noel Boucher-Le



Jenna Lee



## Oxford Award Recipient Victoria Van Vliet Vaitkunas

The Oxford Award is presented to alumnae who exemplify the Delta Gamma philosophy of service to her community through volunteer and philanthropic activities.

Victoria had the following remarks:

I am humbled with this great honor. When one volunteers in the community, it is not for the recognition, but to make the community, organization or the group better. I think, looking back it was my parents, Maury and Virginia Van Vliet, who instilled in me the importance of helping the community. Of course, as a mother, I also did my part with the numerous school and

children's social activities, but I needed to go out into the community to help a broader base.

So when I returned to Edmonton, after nine years away, I got involved with Delta Gamma. First as a pledge (new member), adviser and went over to the chapter house weekly. Then I became the chapter adviser and also worked with House Corporation. Later I was the PCC for Alberta, Idaho, Montana and Washington. My portfolio included the biggest geographical area and the most chapters. I did follow the DG motto "Do Good" and became involved with the Junior League of Edmonton. They did research on needs in the community and when they decided on a project, they committed volunteers and funds. They also believed in proving the effectiveness of a well-trained volunteer in the community, so I was able to have opportunities for leadership, fundraising, research and hands-on community work.

From there I branched out and got involved with many diversity organizations. Some of my volunteer work included: mentoring students from kindergarten to university, developing a monthly activity book for children in the hospitals and day homes, working on a cookbook for six Edmonton arts organizations, fundraising for various groups, chairing a Canadian sports championships, working with NAIT as a member of the Board of Governors and also helping to set up their Foundation, President of a National Canadian Organization and developing a national advocacy manual. I want to mention my special friend, Emmy Stuebing, who submitted my name for this award.

Thank you again for this very special honor, Victoria (Vicki) Van Vliet Vaitkunas, Beta Upsilon

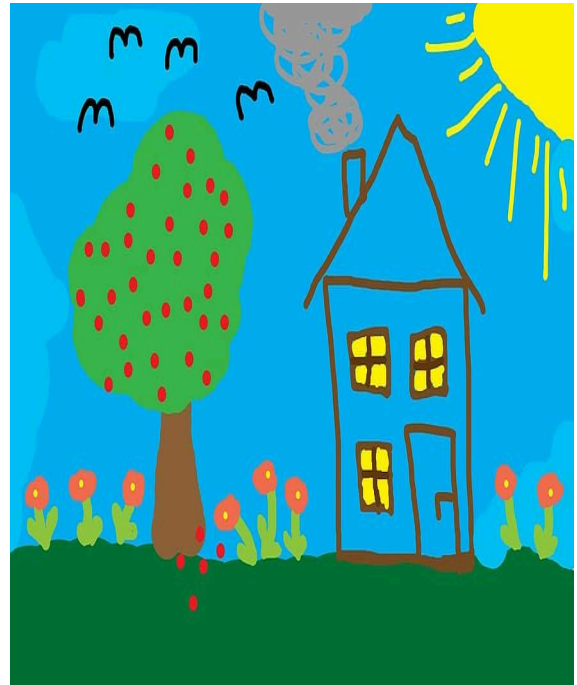


## Virginia Van Vliet Award Stephanie Paice Haynes

The Virginia Van Vliet Award is bestowed only on initiates of Beta Beta Chapter of Delta Gamma. It recognizes the outstanding alumnae for their contributions to both the Edmonton Alumnae Chapter and Beta Beta collegiate chapter.

## And yet more volunteers that support Beta Beta! House Corporation

President	Belinda Spilak
Vice President	Jennifer Laycock
Treasurer	Jacquie Staric
Secretary	Melissa Turnbull
Director at Large	Krista Nelson-Marciano
Director at Large	Sarah Lorentz
Advisory Team Chairman	Jenna Lee
Chapter President	Britanie Lanz
Chapter VP Finance	Danica Evangelista
Chapter Director of House Management	Serene Wolfe



## Advisory Team Members...who volunteer their time to support the collegiate members to reach their potential in Delta Gamma



Advisory Team Chairman	Jenna Lee
Honor Board Advisor	Lucy Clark Simenc
Chapter Finance Adviser	Stephanie Paice Haynes
Membership Advisor	Yolanda Knister
Member Education Advisor	Erin MacAlpine
Foundation Advisor	Sarah Lorentz
Programming Advisor	Mariah McConnell
Communication Advisor	Amanda Marshall
Panhellenic Advisor	Mallory Lussier

## Members Announcements



Courtney Ness, one of our recent alumnus, is marrying her best friend Jared this coming summer.



Edmonton Alumnae Chapter - Bronze Award

# Message from the Edmonton Alumnae President

Well sisters, 2020 was a year for the record books. One year ago we had to make the difficult and short notice decision to cancel the wonderful Founder's Day we had planned. We knew caution was prudent, but really had no idea what the next few months would have in store for us locally or globally.

It has been a year of challenges and sadness like no other in recent history. It has also been one of learning to connect in brand new ways and truly appreciate the present and those closest to us. Zoom, Google Meets, cohorts and bubbles...we were entering brand new territory. Mask wearing, social distancing and sanitizing became the new standard everywhere and we learned to adapt. Our local alumnae rose to the occasion.

Many sisters made or collected masks to distribute and began to think of new ways to stay connected. Virtual meetings and events such as trivia night, cooking lessons, exercise class and book clubs allowed us to come together in new ways. Sister Ninjas delivered secret treats and messages of encouragement to each other all over the local Edmonton area. Coffee chats with collegiate members, initiation over zoom and attending part of formal meeting were also stand out events that allowed alumni to connect with Beta Beta chapter in meaningful ways.

Convention 2020 was online and while different, allowed many more sisters to attend as cost and travel were not factors. Many of us enjoyed the summer months with our sisters as part of our cohorts and bubble families. Facetime calls became a necessity and we used social media to stay connected as winter brought new restrictions and worries over rising case numbers and novel variants.

As we pass the one year mark in this journey called a global pandemic. I want to say I am proud of each and every one of my Delta Gamma sisters. You all pulled together for each other and adapted just as Mary, Anna and Eva did that fateful winter break in 1873 that led to the founding of our beloved Delta Gamma. Continue keeping our ideals and Doing Good at the forefront of your thoughts and actions as we weather this storm together. Thankfully we have hope to anchor us together.

In The Bonds, Christie Harty Beta Beta 1994



## Edmonton Alumnae Chapter Executive:

President	Christie Hardy
VP Programming	Lisa Glover
VP Foundations	Christine Fallowfield
VP Membership	Jenna Lee
VP Finance	Megan Nash
VP Communications	Lana Sigurdson
Social Media Director	Courtney Ness
Founders Day Director	Erin MacAlpine

If you would like to become more involved in our alumnae chapter please reach out to an executive member. We would be thrilled to welcome you. If you are interested in a position we have elections and several open positions coming up soon. President, VP Membership, VP Communications and VP Finance are all open positions and elections information will be coming soon. Please consider joining our team!

## Ways to keep in touch...

Facebook Group....Edmonton Delta Gamma Alumnae Chapter Official Group - members post their news themselves along with notices of upcoming events.

Instagram....edmontondgalum

And you need to update your contact information or the alumni group you can reach us at: [edmontondgalum@gmail.com](mailto:edmontondgalum@gmail.com)