



Sigma Sigma Sigma
Phoenix Alumnae Chapter
Summer 2019 Newsletter

President's Corner

This 2019-2020 year we will be focusing on celebrating what makes our sisterhood special. Sisters are forever – through all the ups and downs of life.

We always seem to have fun every time we are together. But we are so much more than that! As we contribute to help Tri Sigma and our community we continue to strengthen our bonds and develop lifelong friendships.

It has often been said that for anything worthwhile a person receives in direct proportion to efforts made. I encourage you to learn more about how you can participate. Please know that you are always welcome. If you have questions or are interested in learning more about a committee feel free to contact me or the Committee Chair.

Spring 2019 Highlights

We have much to be proud of as an Alumnae Chapter. A few of the highlights from this past spring are noted below.

- We enjoyed the second annual luncheon with the Tucson Alumnae Chapter on February 16th.
- The popular annual Pound Party on February 27th raised over \$1600 for the Tri Sigma Foundation.
- We volunteered to pack food for Feed My Starving Children on March 9th.



- We welcomed Marlene Olsen as a new sister on April 6th!
- On April 14th we honored our Founders as Tri Sigma celebrated 121 years! Founders Day was luncheon at the Moon Valley Country Club in Phoenix as our chapter celebrated the history and values of our sorority.





During Founders Day we were honored to have our own Joyce O’Daniel, Council Member, present us with multiple national awards:

- ▶ 2018 Excellence in Community Service Award. This award, established in 2013, honors an alumnae chapter for outstanding volunteer service to their communities.
- ▶ 2018 Outstanding Service Program Award. This award was received for a project where we created school bags from t-shirts. Another chapter took the school bags and filled them with school supplies and other Tri Sigmas brought the filled school bags to Jamaican school children in need.
- ▶ Golden Violet Awards to Pat Foster and Christine Ahlstrand. These awards are presented to sisters who have honored their vow of lifetime commitment through their friendship and steadfast love of our Sorority for 50 years.
- ▶ 2018 Mabel Lee Walton Award to Maryellen Baxter, Beta Kappa. The award is presented for outstanding service to society as well as to the Sorority.



- On May 4th Olivia Del Viscio was honored as a finalist for Phoenix Panhellenic Emerging Leader of the Year at the annual Panhellenic Luncheon. Congratulations Olivia!



- On May 21st we met with Carson Rodgers, Zeta Chi Collegiate, visiting from South Carolina. Carson was recently initiated and is currently serving as secretary for her Zeta Chi Chapter. While visiting the area she reached out to our Phoenix Alumnae Chapter to network and see the impact of our organization through the lens of alumnae like the sisters of our chapter.



(left to right) Chris Ahlstrand, Carson Rodgers, Anne Ruiz, Mary Schneider, Margi Walters

Announcements

- **Please keep your contact information current for our roster.** Kathy Jackson, Secretary, maintains the Chapter Roster and is the person to notify of all changes to your contact information. Email is still our preferred method of communication at this time so it is important to keep your email information current so you receive all evites and other announcements.

- **Did you know that the Phoenix Alumnae Chapter has a private page on Facebook as well as a public website?**

Upcoming events are posted to our private Facebook page along with other announcements. Just search within Facebook for “Tri-Sigma Phoenix Alumnae” and request to join.

Our public website is available for sisters who may want to search for chapters located in our area. You can find it by searching on TriSigma.org for “Alumnae Connect” and then “Find a Chapter”. Click on Arizona in the map and then click on the link to <http://phoenix.trisigma.org>. Events are summarized on this public site but you will need to check your emails for the specific hostess information and addresses.

- **Reminder from the Treasurer...**

\$30 Chapter and \$45 National dues are due to be paid as of the first meeting of the year which is the Salad Luncheon in August.

Philanthropy

The Philanthropy Committee has planned some fun and worthwhile activities for the 2019-2020 year. One event back by popular demand is the **Gong Auction**. Watch for more information coming soon!

- **Maricopa Integrated Health System (MIHS)**



Meanwhile, please start collecting your spare change in a jar for Maricopa Integrated Health System (MIHS). We will be collecting change at events throughout the year starting with the August Salad Luncheon.

In addition, every year Maricopa Health Foundation partners with MIHS and distributes roughly 1,200 backpacks and supplies to children at its four Family Learning Centers. You can go to the link below and order items on the wish list which can be delivered directly to the Foundation. *(Please print your confirmation so we can track all donations).* **All items are needed by July 17th** for distribution July 20th and July 22. https://smile.amazon.com/hz/charitylist/ls/25XIP5X92WSE1/ref=smi_ext_lnk_lcl_cl
You can also donate cash directly to them at <https://maricopahealthfoundation.org/backpacks2019/>.

Last year’s philanthropic activities from the Spaghetti Factory, Online Auction, and Schwan’s Fundraiser raised over \$2,000 for MIHS. Watch for another announcement coming soon based this great committee’s work.

- **Foundation**

Don’t forget our Foundation! We have set up a couple of easy ways for members (along with your friends and family) to support our Sigma Sigma Sigma Foundation:

- **Fry’s Food Stores** will donate a percentage of purchases every time you use your rewards card. You must register your card online with the charity selected as “Sigma Sigma Sigma Foundation”. This is easy to do online yourself or with the help of the service desk at your favorite store.

- [Amazon](#) will donate a percentage of purchases when you purchase through AmazonSmile and select your charity as “Sigma Sigma Sigma Foundation”. This is a program for anyone across the US as long as they select us as a charity.

- **Walton House**

At the Spring Business Meeting it was decided to hold fundraising raffles at each event this spring with proceeds earmarked for Walton House. To date these raffles have generated over \$400 designated for this purpose. We hope to gather information at Convention about possible needs where we can contribute in our chapter name. More information to come.

Upcoming Summer Events



- **Convention is June 28-July1 in Las Vegas!**

This year the 45th Sigma Sigma Sigma Convention is at the JW Marriott Las Vegas Resort & Spa. We are excited that over 20 sisters from our Chapter are attending!

Tri Sigma’s convention philanthropic project is Nevada Blind Children’s Foundation which serves visually impaired and blind children ages birth to 22. Even if you are not attending convention you can still contribute to their wish list on Amazon.

- **Coming soon....**

July 20 – Craft Workshop

July 30 – Lunch Bunch at Noodles Ranch

August 10 – Salad Luncheon and Business Meeting

August 22 – Afternoon Tea at the Phoenician

September 4 – Musical Instrument Museum and Lunch

September 17 – Happy Hour at EVO in Scottsdale

- **Watch your email inbox for event listings and invitations!**

Programming has been busy planning a variety of activities across multiple interests, age groups, and locations across the valley for July 2019-June 2020.

Since the committee plans the events a year in advance it is important to watch your email for quarterly updates and the evite invitations in case some details may have needed to be changed.

PHOENIX ALUMNAE CHAPTER

PhxTriSigma@gmail.com

Your Chapter Officers

President	Chris Ahlstrand
VP Programming	Anne Ruiz
VP Membership	Sandy Beutler
Treasurer	Mary Schneider
Secretary	Kathy Jackson
<u>Ex-officio</u>	
PanHellenic Representative	Chris LaBarge
Alternate PanHellenic Rep	Olivia Del Viscio

Your Chapter Committees/Chairs

Programming:

Event Calendar	Rena Cruse
Facebook/Social Media	Judy Alspaugh

Membership:

Member Recruitment Chair	Amy Corsi
Relocation Member Outreach	Olivia Del Viscio
Member Orientation	Maryellen Baxter
Existing Member Outreach	Liz Hoffert

Administrative:

Bylaws/Parliamentarian	Mary Webster
Financial Review	Stephanie Babb/Natasha Paris Donaldson

Sisterhood:

Ritual	Colleen Stangl
Character Counts	Mary Webster/Maryellen Baxter
Crafts	Mary Webster
Historian/Scrapbook	Jan Timmerman
Senior Sigma Sisters	Jan Timmerman
Photographer/Digitizer	(new) open

Tri Sigma.org:

Awards	Chris LaBarge
Triangle	open
Website	open

Special Events:

Convention 2019	Sue Dusold
Founders Day	Vicki Corrigan
Tucson/Phoenix Luncheon	n/a (Tucson hosts 2020)

Philanthropic Committee:

Coordinating Chair	Sue Smith
Budgeting/Cash Management	Mary Schneider
Gong Auction	Mary Webster/Colleen Stangl
Charity Walks/Runs	Sue Smith
Baby Crochet/Knitting	Connie Geyer
Grants	Sue Smith
Walton House	Vicki Corrigan
Feed My Starving Children	Sky Larsen
Raffles/Baskets	Sky Larsen/Joni Perisho