



Great Lakes Gazette

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Feel free to contact us with news, events, or questions!



Great Lakes Achievers

Marianne Jones, ZN '61, and her 100 mile walk

By Mella Davies, Area Alumnae Director

Marianne Jones was a member of a local sorority, Sigma Kappa Sigma at what is now Ferris State University. This local was the first on campus to merge with a national sorority. Marianne became a member of Zeta Nu chapter of Delta Zeta in 1961.

After her sophomore year of college, she married and started a family. When she returned to Ferris to complete her BS, her chapter sisters helped her out by babysitting while she attended classes. She became a teacher at Big Rapids H.S. in Michigan. Asked if she had joined an alumnae group, Marianne said that raising 4 sons and

teaching kept her busy. She has stayed in contact with some of her chapter sisters at Ferris.

She became active in the local Senior Center after she retired from teaching. Her mother and sisters have always been walkers so she decided to inspire the Center members to walk more when a grant was offered for a "Take a Hike" program.. They purchased pedometers and began a four month program of walking with a goal of 10,000 steps a day. The Senior Center urged members to pick an imaginary destination. She realized that with all the steps she was walking, it translated into more than 300 miles, the distance from Mecosta, MI to Greenville, OH where she was born.

It was then that she took on the personal challenge to really walk from Mecosta to Greenville. She enlisted the help of senior centers and friends along her route to help with her overnight accommodations. She arranged that any donations received along the way in Michigan would be given to the local senior centers and Meals on Wheels. Donations in Ohio were given to local hospices. Before she left Mecosta, she met with the women of Zeta Nu chapter, sharing memories of her experiences at Ferris.

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Delta Zeta and DePauw University

Dear Delta Zeta Alumna,

I am writing as a follow up to our March 21, 2007 letter regarding the situation at DePauw University. Thank you to the innumerable alumnae from around the country who have written us in support of the sorority and who have taken affirmative steps to combat the negative, false and defamatory claims made against Delta Zeta in this instance.

Since our last communication, the university's leadership has withdrawn

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Great Lakes Area Collegiate Award Winners

Grace Mason Lundy Award Winner - Kelly Petersen

Kelly Petersen, GK '02

Hometown: Madison, Ohio

Major: Family and Consumer Science Education

Chapter/Year of Initiation: Gamma Kappa Chapter - Kent State University/Spring, 2002

Undergraduate Offices Held

Awards Chair; Ritual Chair; House Manager; Colonnade Chair; Fund-raising Chair; Secretary; President; 2003 Norma Minch Andrisek Leadership Conference participant; Gamma Kappa delegate for the 2004 National Convention

Alumnae Chapter Involvement

Currently serving on the Gamma Kappa Advisory Board and is a member of the Kent Alumnae Chapter

College Activities Outside Delta Zeta

Intern for Congressman Steven LaTourette; Kent State Education Association; Kent State Greek Bowling League; Volunteer for TownHall II Families First Program; Sigma Rho Chi for Formal Recruitment 2005; Fund-raising Chair, Treasurer, Vice President of Programming/Judicial Affairs and President of Kent Panhellenic Council

Hobbies and Favorite Activities

Crafting, Spending time with Family and Friends, Sewing, Cooking

Grad school/Career Info

I graduated from Kent State in December of 2006 with a degree in education. Currently, I am looking for a teaching position at a local school district and will be substitute teaching until something becomes available. I am looking forward to heading back to school in a few years for a master's degree in education.

Why I chose Delta Zeta and My Favorite Delta Zeta Memory:

My response to both can be summarized with my favorite Delta Zeta quote. This quote is from a preference ceremony that Gamma Kappa often uses during formal recruitment. The quote states, "When I became a Delta Zeta, I found a group of special friends. Friends who love me simply for who I am. I found a place where I can go and be myself, and where I can always find someone who cares. I have found my home away from home. I have found the true meaning of Delta Zeta."

The first sentence of the quote states, "When I became a Delta Zeta, I found a group of special friends."

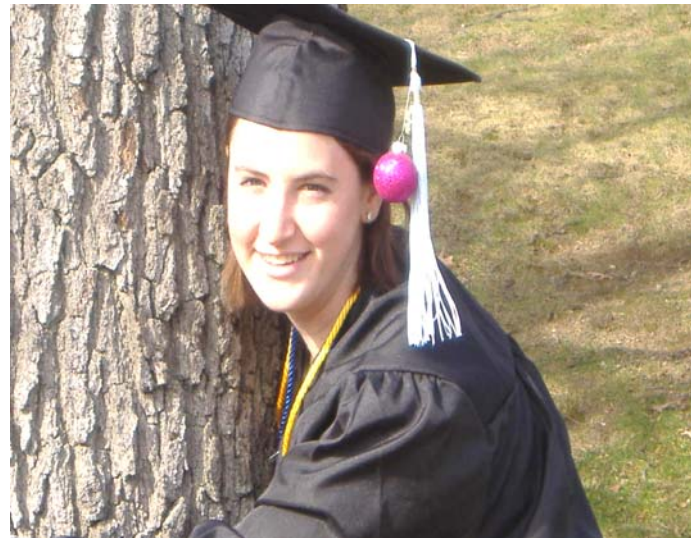
I became a new member of Delta Zeta in the spring of 2002 and a group of special friends is exactly what I found and needed. For once in my life, I was part of an organization that inspired me to be my best self. I had found friends I could call sisters and truly depend on. I was inspired by stories of the past to carry my chapter into the future and was excited to begin my own journey in Delta Zeta. Little did I know then, that it would be the most enriching and enlightening journey of my life thus far.

The second section of the quote states, "Friends who love me simple for who I am. I have found a place where I can go and be myself, and where I can always find someone who cares. I have found my home away from home."

The friends that I have made in Delta Zeta do love me simply for who I am and all of my little quirks. They laugh at my "happy hands" dance, they do DZ cheers with me as loud as they can, they support me on my good days, and they hold me up on my bad days. My sisters have inspired me to be the person that I am today, and for that I am truly grateful.

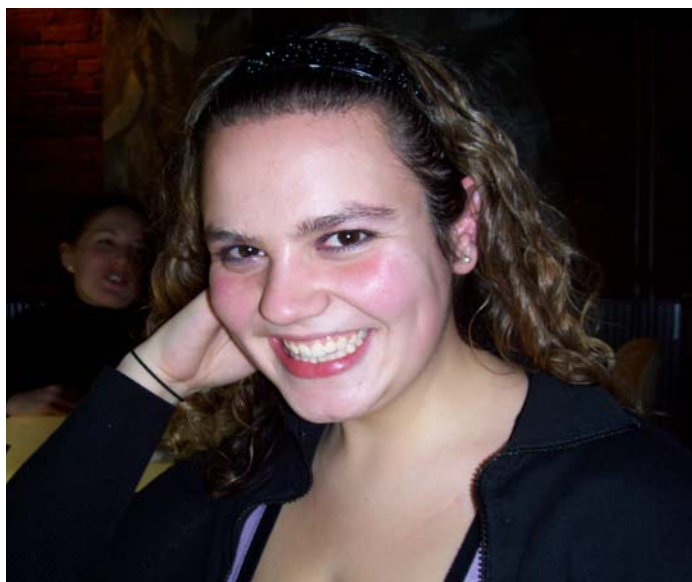
The last sentence of the quote states, "I have found the true meaning of Delta Zeta."

I believe that this section of the quote will describe my alumna years. As I continue through life and continue my involvement, I will continue to find the true meaning of Delta Zeta. I will be able to reflect back on everything the sorority has given me and continue to give back to Delta Zeta. The true meaning of Delta Zeta is a lifelong adventure and I can not wait to see what is in store!



Great Lakes Area Collegiate Award Winners

Florence Hood Miner Award Winner - Sarah Kovit



Sarah Kovit, AP '04

Hometown: Beachwood, Ohio

Majors: Politics and government & Spanish

Chapter/Year of Initiation: Alpha Rho/March 3, 2004

Offices held

Vice President of Membership; Panhellenic Delegate (Scholarship Chair for Panhellenic Council); Sunshine Chair; Songleader; Activities Chair

Activities outside Delta Zeta

LEAD; Choral Art Society; Judicial Affairs (prosecutor); Mortarboard; Omicron Delta Kappa; outgoing Order of Omega president; Student director of the Honors Board; Pi Sigma Alpha; Phi Eta Sigma; Phi Society

Honors while at OWU

Awarded the Order of Omega scholarship, recognizing scholastic achievement, participation in campus organizations, leadership, citizenship and service to the Greek community.

Hobbies and favorite activities

Singing, crafting, working out, watching lots of TV and movies

Plans for after graduation/career aspirations

I have just finished my law school applications and am waiting to hear back. If all goes well, I will be enrolled in the fall to pursue a career in immigration law. I currently work for an immigration law firm and love it.

Why did you choose Delta Zeta?

From the moment I stepped onto the Ohio Wesleyan campus, every upperclassmen that I met and hit it off with was a Delta Zeta. By the time recruitment came around, joining DZ only seemed natural.

Favorite Delta Zeta memory so far...

Bid night. There's nothing like knowing that people you really like, really like you as well. There's something empowering about that!



Alumnae Chapter Per Capita Dues Deadline is March 10, 2007

The Delta Zeta Great Lakes Area 2007 Alumnae Chapter Per Capita Dues deadline is March 10, 2007. The dues remain at \$2.00 per chapter member. Please pay promptly!

Per capita dues stay in the Great Lakes Area. They are used to help defray costs for awards, workshops, and travel expenses for special guests at Region Day (Michigan) and State Day (Ohio). We are able to keep the registration costs down if everyone helps to support the Great Lakes Area by paying per capita dues.

Please submit your dues (payable to Delta Zeta Great Lakes) to Melissa Brundjar Werner, Great Lakes Area Treasurer. Contact Melissa at mbrundjar@core.com with any questions or for her mailing address.



Delta Zeta Great Lakes Area
On the Web:
www.dzgreatlakes.com

ON THE WEB: Alumnae Chapter News Sharing Forms
Great Lakes Area Alumnae Chapter **News Sharing Forms** are on the web! Use this form to report on exciting news, events or achievements within your chapter as a whole, or among individual members. **NO NEWS IS TOO SMALL!** We want to hear it all, and pass it on to our National organization and *Dateline: Delta Zeta*, so that Delta Zeta, and especially the Great Lakes Area, SHINES! Forms are available for both Region V and Region VI Alumnae Chapters. **Thanks to the Grand Rapids Alumnae Chapter for being the first group to take advantage of these forms - read about Grand Rapids alumnae below!**

Dee Zee Diamonds
are a Girl's Best Friend
State Day 2007 - April 21, 2007
Hosted by Kappa Iota Chapter at
Wright State University
State Day Website -
www.wright.edu/~williamson.26

Don't forget...

...that the Great Lakes website at www.dzgreatlakes.com provides wonderful resources at your fingertips day and night. Check the website periodically for current news-worthy information, or any time for Great Lakes/chapter resources, important dates and upcoming events, area newsletters, sharing forms, networking opportunities, and important links.



Above: Several Grand Rapids Alumnae Chapter members enjoyed Christmas dinner together. The chapter also celebrated with the ladies of Xi Psi chapter from Grand Valley State University. In addition, alumna Jane Telder attended winter initiation at Xi Psi Chapter, while Margaret Cole and Karen Miron attended initiation at Zeta Nu Chapter at Ferris State University.

Tidbits

Great Lakes Area News and Announcements

Karen Miron of the Grand Rapids Alumnae Chapter was elected to serve on the Board of Directors for the Consultant Pharmacist division of the Michigan Pharmacist Association! Congratulations to Karen!

Piper Elizabeth was born to Zeta Kappa CCD Jackie Lee and her husband Rob on January 11, 2007 at 3:05 am. She weighed 7 pounds 6 ounces and was 19 3/4 inches long (tiny by Lee girl standards!). Piper joins little legacies Arden and Claire, already at home.

Congratulations to Region VI RCC Andrea Henderson and her family on the birth of one of Delta Zeta's newest legacies, Delaney Henderson!

Foundation Focus

News from the Delta Zeta Foundation

Help Delta Zeta Fulfill our 3 Wishes!

Delta Zeta has three wishes:

- 1) Excel as the premier sorority in leadership development
- 2) Advance in our commitment to Delta Zeta standards
- 3) Strengthen our volunteer network and recruit more members

How can you help fulfill Delta Zeta's three wishes? Donate \$33.33 to the Delta Zeta Foundation, and you'll receive a silver lamp charm!

Visit www.deltazeta.org and click on Foundation Focus for more details. 🐸



Dateline: Delta Zeta Headlines

From the Great Lakes Alumnae Area

The following are just a sample of the Great Lakes Area headlines taken from Dateline: Delta Zeta on the Delta Zeta National Website. Links to full articles for these and other Great Lakes Area headlines can be found by visiting Dateline: Delta Zeta online at www.deltazeta.org.

- Jane MacFarlane Welker ZN '90 was reappointed for a third term to the Michigan Commission on Disability Concerns
- The Dayton Alumnae Chapter formed the Pink Turtles team to fight against breast cancer.
- The Gamma Alpha Chapter at Baldwin Wallace College and the Cleveland Westside-Berea Alumnae Chapter celebrated a very special Founders Day -- one that honored Delta Zeta's founding and honored the 65th anniversary of the Gamma Alpha Chapter.
- The Kent Alumnae Chapter celebrated Founders Day with the collegians of Gamma Kappa Chapter at Kent State University.
- The Youngstown Alumnae Chapter joined with the Kappa Chi (Youngstown State University) collegians to host an annual Founders Day dinner.
- The Cleveland-Eastside Alumnae Chapter got together with members of the Cleveland Westside-Berea Alumnae Chapter this summer to tour some of the ethnic shops of Cleveland.
- Columbus Alumnae Chapter member Judi Jacobs is the new CCD for the Theta Chapter at The Ohio State University.
- The Delaware Area Alumnae Chapter is busy planning events for the academic year for their alumnae members.
- The Grand Rapids Alumnae Chapter was awarded a certificate for Overall Outstanding Alumnae Chapter at the 2006 National Convention.
- Oakland County Alumnae Chapter member Josephine Nickora Vaara '53 was chosen as Clarkston, Michigan Citizen of the Year in the spring 2006 for her work with breast cancer patients.
- The Youngstown Alumnae Chapter participated in the Delta Zeta Alumnae-Collegian Picnic this summer, which was hosted by Kappa Chi (Youngstown State University) collegians and the alumnae chapter.
- The Metro Detroit Alumnae Chapter met at Detroit's Pewabic Pottery Center earlier this year (see photo at right).



Marianne Jones ZN '61 and her 100 Mile Walk (continued from page 1)

People were very kind to Marianne. Family members and others walked different parts of the walk with her. When she crossed from Michigan into Ohio, a hospice volunteer followed her in a car for three days, driving ahead one mile, then waiting for Marianne to catch up. When she was assured all was well, she'd drive another mile ahead. She didn't meet any Delta Zetas on this trip but was assured she would have DZ sisters who would walk with her if she plans another walking adventure.

Marianne left Mecosta on April 28, 2006, and 23 days later, walked into Greenville, Ohio on May 20, 2006. The highlight was having all four sons and their families, two sisters and other relatives join her at the end for the welcome celebration at the Hospice building. (She managed this 300 mile walk alternating between two pairs of walking shoes which she did not wear out.) When she arrived in Greenville, Wal-Mart presented her with the largest donation – a \$1900.00 check for the Greenville Hospice.

This was a journey of spiritual change for Marianne. She encountered so many instances of coincidence along her walk that she is writing about her experiences. This walk to benefit these organizations was her way to celebrate life and give back to others. 🌱

Great Lakes Calendar

- March 5, 2007 - International Badge Day
- April 2, 2007 - Deadline for submissions for the Spring *Great Lakes Gazette*
- April 21, 2007 - State Day (Ohio)
Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio
- June 22-24, 2007 - Norma Minch Andrisek Leadership Conference
Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana
- September 10, 2007 - Deadline for submissions for Issue #3 of *The LAMP*
- October 24, 2007 - Happy Founders' Day!
- November 10, 2007 - Deadline for submissions for the Fall *Great Lakes Gazette* and Issue #1 of *The LAMP*
- November, 2007 - Region VI Day
University of Windsor, Ontario, Canada
- February 10, 2008 - Deadline for submissions for Issue #2 of *The LAMP*

Continued from Page 1

recognition of Delta Zeta in an effort to close the chapter forever. Almost 100 years of serving as the university's partner in educating and housing several generations of outstanding women at DePauw was wiped away in a single moment. We have spent countless hours at DePauw working on special task forces, relationship statements, developing minimum standards and expectations, and other milestones for conduct of a Greek community. It is almost incomprehensible that the university is now taking unilateral disciplinary action against its partner without properly adhering to the school's internal processes for protecting the rights of students and organizations.

Today, Delta Zeta filed a lawsuit against DePauw University on a number of grounds. This legal course of action was taken only after the National Council had exhausted all other options available to us. Specifically, the university has resisted our repeated requests, both before and after their decision to withdraw recognition of the chapter, to meet with them to resolve this situation. We know our legal action may be the start of other legal actions that might be filed against Delta Zeta and we stand ready to vigorously defend ourselves.

We hope that you are hearing this news first from our sorority. While we can't control how the media may characterize this lawsuit by Delta Zeta, we want to set the record straight for our members.

The heart of our lawsuit against DePauw involves three claims that should matter to all Greeks. First, the university withdrew recognition of our chapter in a manner that is completely inconsistent with the due process rights of students and organizations on campus. Simply put, the school acted as judge and jury in this case instead of following the disciplinary action processes outlined in their Student Handbook. Second, the university lacked valid grounds to take action against Delta Zeta since the student affairs staff at the school had been active participants in approving all aspects of the membership review process that is central to this dispute. Finally, the university and its officials have engaged in a deliberate campaign to defame Delta Zeta and inflicted significant harm to the student members of our organization by exposing them to national ridicule.

While we regret the need to seek a legal solution to this problem, we enter this process confident that the facts and the law will ultimately vindicate our organization's actions. We remain hopeful that DePauw University will meet with us to work out an amicable solution that ensures our future place on campus and rightfully restores our reputation.

As this litigation proceeds, we will continue to communicate with you about the status of the case. If you do have questions about the lawsuit, please contact us at leadership@dzshq.com or 513/523-7597 and a member of our National Council will contact you.

We are proud to be Delta Zetas, and we hope you will continue to join us in sharing this pride. As we move forward to a brighter future, we look forward to your continued involvement in talking about the many great things we do as Delta Zeta for our individual members and our campus communities. We thank all of you who have graciously stood by your sorority.

We Are Delta Zeta!
Debbie Raziano
National President of Delta Zeta Sorority

Delta Zeta Files Federal Lawsuit Against DePauw University

This has been a very challenging time for Delta Zeta. We have faced a situation at DePauw University where actions taken based on our organization's principles were incorrectly interpreted as being purely about the image of our individual members on that campus. We see firsthand the negative impact caused by the stereotypes imposed on college women in general and sorority women in particular.

Our foremost concerns have always been about protecting the Delta Zeta experience for all our members, at DePauw and elsewhere in North America. Therefore, we have reached out to all the chapter members at DePauw to help them work through the process of restoring the chapter and continuing their membership experience as a student or alumna member. We have contacted our DePauw members individually and we will continue private discussions with them individually or collectively as appropriate.

Delta Zeta prides itself on having a strong partnership with each of our 157 host institutions across the country, but that partnership at DePauw has broken down. Over the past several months, Delta Zeta has repeatedly sought to meet with the DePauw University leadership to hear their concerns about our chapter reorganization and to reach a mutually agreeable resolution to those concerns.

We have also sought, to no avail, to end the university's campaign to falsely portray Delta Zeta and the situation involving our chapter at DePauw. DePauw's leadership has engaged in an intentional campaign to defame Delta Zeta and inflicted significant harm on many of the student members of the sorority by deliberately exposing them to national ridicule. We have made repeated requests to meet with President Bottoms and Dean Babington to discuss these serious issues. The university has not responded to those meeting requests and instead took the unilateral action of withdrawing recognition of our chapter.

The university's actions leave us with little recourse for uncovering the truth and restoring the good reputation of Delta Zeta. As a result, Delta Zeta filed a federal lawsuit this morning in Indiana, alleging DePauw University has defamed our organization and our members, broken its contractual obligations to the sorority, and interfered with our business relationships. While a lawsuit was our least preferred alternative, DePauw University must be held accountable for this unprecedented attack on our members and on the legitimate membership activities of our organization.

This lawsuit will not impact our efforts to assist the chapter members at DePauw.