UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY EVENTS

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Night Group Dinner January 13, 2020 @ 7:00 p.m. Home of Karen Hook King 3739 Darcus St. (77005)

Book Club January 21, 2020 @ 7:00 p.m. TBD

Pink Party (evening) January 23, 2020 @ 7:00 p.m. Home of Stacy Ellington 11020 S. Country Squire St. (77024)

Mothers' Club Morning Coffee with Kappa+Pi Phi Mothers January 29, 2020 @ 10:00 a.m. Home of Liz Rotan 413 Longwoods Ln. (77024)

FEBRUARY EVENTS

Bible Study February 4, 2020 @ 12:00 p.m. Home of Becca Schwinger 3 Pine Grove Cir. (77024)

Board Meeting (board) February 6, 2020 @ 10:00 a.m. Home of Courtney Swanson 5403 Candlewood Dr (77056)

General Meeting & Lunch (day)■ February 6, 2020 @ 11:00 a.m. Home of Courtney Swanson 5403 Candlewood Dr (77056)

(continued on page three)

Small Group Event **■** Sisterhood Event Signature Event

The Pi Beta Phi Houston Alumnae Club and The Houston Pi Beta Phi Foundation invite you to



HONORING THE LIGHT FOUNDATION

Blazing A Trail is our inaugural leadership and literacy event that captures the innovative spirit of Texas women who know how to have fun while getting the iob done.

On April 1, 2020, the trail leads to River Oaks Country Club, where you'll find the crossroads of food, fashion, film, and forward-thinking with this year's Epicurean Table & Mercantile. The event includes a well-edited shopping experience and an ingredient-focused gourmet lunch, followed by a speaker panel on entrepreneurship led by Pi Phi alumna Gay Gaddis, author of "Cowgirl Power: How to Kick Ass in Business and Life" and founder of T3 Advertising, one of the nation's largest woman-owned agencies. Our panel also includes Bettina Barrow, Sundance-selected independent film producer, Tish Cox, adored Dallas-based fashion designer, and Paula Disbrowe, "Cowgirl Cuisine" cookbook author and recognized food and travel writer.

Excitement also abounds for the opportunity to honor dedicated Pi Phi alumnae Carolyn Chappell Light and her daughter, Melissa Light DeAyala, and Susan Light Padon and her daughter, Courtney Lawhon Robertson, on behalf of the Jack H. and William M. Light Charitable Trust, a trailblazer of the highest order for the Houston community. We will then tip our hats to Texas-born sisters Leah Bowen and Holly Brochman, co-authors of the "A Feel Better Book" series for children, as they are awarded the first Aim High Literacy Initiatives' Ima Hogg Award in recognition of their commitment to educating children on social and emotional wellbeing.

This new award honors Pi Beta Phi Texas Alpha founding member Ima Hogg, who is known as the "First Lady of Texas." The Child Guidance Center she began in Houston is now part of the DePelchin Children's Center, home to the Pi Beta Phi Lending Library.

Do not miss the opportunity to hear from this lineup of creative women who pursue their unique talents on their own terms across multiple platforms. Fill out the form on the next page to support Blazing A Trail.





WEDNESDAY | APRIL 1, 2020 | 11:00 AM





PLEASE RESPOND BY DECEMBER 10TH

ADDRESS PI BETA PHI FOUNDATION 6212 Burgoyne Road · Houston, Texas 77057 PLEASE CHARGE MY: OVISA OMASTERCARD AMEX ODI	
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HOUSTON PI BETA PHI HIGH LITERACY INITIATIVES 5. 10.	
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Houston Pi Beta Phi Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. The fair market value of your underwriting support will be enclosed with your acknowledgement.

Houston charitable organizations who have benefitted from past fundraising efforts include:

The Pi Beta Phi Patient Family Library at Texas Children's Hospital Medical Center and West Campus

The Pi Beta Phi Literacy Enrichment Program at The Children's Cancer Hospital at MD Anderson Cancer Center

> The "Champions are Readers" **Elementary School Program**

Bo's Place Pi Beta Phi Library

Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital's Pi Beta Phi Library

Children's Museum of Houston Pi Beta Phi "Storytime" at Free Family Nights



Pi Beta Phi Lending Library

The Nehemiah Center Pi Beta Phi Library

DePelchin Children's Center

The Neuhaus Education Center

Yellowstone Academy Pi Beta Phi Library

Small Steps Nurturing Center

piphitrailblazers@gmail.com HOUSTON PI BETA PHI FOUNDATION IS A 501 (C)(3) ORGANIZATION

UPCOMING EVENTS

(continued from page one)

Golden Arrow Valentine Brunch ● February 12, 2020 @ 11:30 a.m.
Junior League of Houston
1811 Briar Oaks Ln. (77027)

HAPA Recruitment Roundtable

(Panhellenic)

February 15, 2020 @ 10:00 a.m. St. John the Divine Episcopal Church 2450 River Oaks Boulevard (77019)

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(board)

Book Club

February 18, 2020 @ 7:00 p.m. TBD

Theta+Pi Phi Valentine Party February 20, 2020 @ 11:30 a.m. TBD

Fraternity Day of Service February 27, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m. Children's Museum of Houston 1500 Binz St. (77004)

MARCH EVENTS

Bible Study

March 5, 2020 @ 12:00 p.m. Home of Becca Schwinger 3 Pine Grove Cir. (77024)

Board Meeting

March 19, 2020 @ 9:30 a.m. Home of Jennifer Stevenson 5658 Sugar Hill (77056)

Children's Event: Easter Party March 25, 2020 @ 4:00 p.m.

Home of Lauren Wood 1119 Sheffield St. (77401)

APRIL EVENTS

Blazing a Trail Epicerie &
Mercantile I Spring Gala
to benefit Aim High Houston Pi Phi
Literacy Initiatives
April 1, 2020 @ 11:00 a.m.

River Oaks Country Club 1600 River Oaks Blvd. (77019)

Small Group Event
 Sisterhood Event
 Signature Event

AIM HIGH FOUNDATION NEWS & NOTES

Spotlight on Literacy Now

Literacy Now—formerly Making It Better—is the Foundation's newest addition to the philanthropies we support. Our own Becky Flemmons Herren serves as the controller and has been involved for over 12 years with the group. LN's goal is to transform communities by empowering children and families through literacy, leadership, and life skills. They offer reading intervention group tutorials for at-risk children in grades K-2. Literacy Now also provides lunch/bunch mentoring for students approaching adolescence and sponsors a Reading Express Mobile Classroom, which provides early literacy programs to very young children.

Volunteer opportunities abound with Literacy



HOUSTON PI PHI LITERACY INITIATIVES

Now—from reading aloud to young children to mentoring pre-adolescents. Literacy Now is very grateful for the support they have received from the Foundation and continue to expand the services they provide to reach their goal.

We are very proud of be a supporter of Literacy Now!





Volunteer Opportunities

CHAMPIONS ARE READERS

Champions are Readers needs three or more volunteers for Friday, February 28 (time TBD) at Shadow Oaks Elementary, 1335 Shadowdale Dr. (77043).

Please contact Jennifer Carmichael at carmichael928@gmail.com if you are able to volunteer.



FRATERNITY DAY OF SERVICE

Our Fraternity Day of Service will be at the Children's Museum of Houston, 1500 Binz St., on February 27 at 5:00 p.m. We will need volunteers to distribute books, interact with and read to children, and dress up in Seuss costumes. Stay tuned for more details. An email signup will go out soon.

Angel Wing

Our deepest sympathies to the families of the following Pi Phis.

- Lindy Stockdale (Texas Alpha '74) lost her mother, Mary Ann Bradfield, on October 5, 2019, in Austin, at the age of 93. Lindy was there with her when she passed very peacefully.
- Helen Schmidt (Texas Alpha '89) lost her father, Roswell "Sandy" Vaughan, on October 18, 2019, at the age of 81.
- **Greggory Burk** (Texas Beta '93) lost her mother, Linda Gregg Fields, on October 23, 2019, at the age of 75.

HOUSTON AREA PANHELLENIC ASSOCIATION NEWS

Awards and Nominations



Congratulations to our Carolyn Helman Lichtenberg Crest Award nominee, Jennifer Hazelton

The Carolyn Helman Lichtenberg Crest Award is presented annually to distinguished alumnae of Pi Beta Phi who

exhibit excellence and outstanding leadership in their career or volunteer service to their communities. Jennifer truly meets all the criteria for this award for outstanding personal achievement.

Jennifer has been named "Best CFO of the Year – Nonprofit" and "A Woman Who Means Business" by the *Houston Business Journal*—and anyone who has served with the Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo has an idea how demanding the position as chief financial officer is.

On top of her extremely demanding career, Jennifer manages to give back to the community in the areas of literacy and education. She is a founding member of the Barbara Bush Houston Literacy Foundation's Ladies Guild, where she currently serves as treasurer and member of the executive committee, she is audit committee chairman and advisory board member of the Neuhaus Education Center, and she is a board member of Small Steps Nurturing Center.

She happened to have had a bad week when Suzanne Stiles called to inform her of the nomination. When Suzanne told her, she replied, "This is the very thing that brings me back up again."

NOMINATIONS

We are currently accepting nominations for the following awards:

Evelyn Peters Kyle Angel Award for Club Service

This award is presented to an individual alumna who has served her alumnae club by performing those duties that often go unrecognized but serve to enhance the success of an alumnae club. This award is presented in honor of Evelyn Peters Kyle, an outstanding leader of the Pi Beta Phi Fraternity who gave more than 75 years of leadership and service to the Fraternity. Regional winners will be selected as well as an overall winner.

Emma Harper Turner Leadership Award

This award is presented to an alumna who has provided exceptional leadership that contributed to the success of her alumnae club on the local level. This award is presented in honor of Emma Harper Turner, who established the alumnae department in 1893. Regional winners will be selected as well as an overall winner.

Young Alumna Achievement Award

This award is presented to an alumna who has graduated college within the last 15 years, has become an active Pi Beta Phi alumna member, and has demonstrated that Pi Beta Phi is a lifelong commitment through her involvement in an alumnae club through positions on an alumnae advisory committee and/or chapter house corporation and other opportunities through local community leadership. Regional winners will be selected as well as an overall winner.

Send your nominations to Kath Boles at kdb71851@yahoo.com or Suzanne Stiles at suzanne.stiles@yahoo.com by February 1, 2020.

Our **Suzanne Gerum Stiles** is being sworn in as Houston Area Panhellenic Association President at the HAPAF Scholarship Luncheon on Thursday, May 7, 2020. Because there are over 19 member sororities in HAPA, Pi Beta Phi hasn't had a president in the rotation since Pat Shuford served brilliantly as HAPA president in 2001.

We need to show our Pi Phi proud spirit by attending this important milestone event for our alumnae club. All Pi Phis are welcome!

Send Liz Rotan your check for \$150, or \$1,500 for a table, payable to HAPAF, to 413 Longwoods Ln. (77024) to secure your seat at this annual luncheon honoring scholarship recipients. The program print deadline is March 15.



HAPA & HAPF ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON Honoring 2020 Scholarship Winners

Featuring

Carole Jones

2019-2021 National Panhellenic Conference Chairman Alpha Omicron Pi

&

Celebrating

The Installation of the 2020-2021 HAPA President

Suzanne Stiles

Pi Beta Phi

May 7, 2020

The Junior League of Houston

Check In 11:00 a.m. • Ballroom Doors Open 11:30 a.m.

Proceeds benefit

Houston Alumnae Panhellenic Foundation Scholarship Fund

Early Bird Reservations Deadline: April 30, 2020

Patrons \$150 • Individual \$65 After April 30 • Individuals \$75 Please make checks payable to HAPF

Mail to: Mrs. Melanie Frank, Reservations Chair 5530 Spellman Rd. (77096) melmcfrank@comcast.net

Member Spotlight – Sharing Our Stories

Pi Beta Phi is the tie that binds our Houston Alumnae Club members, but there is also plenty that makes each of us unique! "Sharing Our Stories" is where we highlight the experiences and accomplishments of a few of our members each quarter. We are a multi-faceted group of women, with a wide variety of interests, skills, and talents to share. If you have a member spotlight idea for a future issue, please contact Leslie Loftis at Imloftis@icloud.com.

ANICE SHELTON, FIGHTER AND ADVOCATE

I'm a charter member Texas Eta '85 and I have a Pi Phi story to tell...

I am currently battling Stage 4 Uterine Papillary Serous Carcinoma. I have been fighting since November 2016. There is no cure currently for my form of uterine cancer—only maintenance. I am in treatment at Memorial Hermann Hospital Cancer Center.

Through this cancer I have had a full hysterectomy where cancer was

School as costume designer and I do spin and practice yoga almost daily.

Why am I telling you all of this? Because I firmly believe my purpose these days is to educate women about uterine/ovarian cancers and raise awareness for it and cold capping. We are all aware of breast cancer thanks to all of the pink, but it's necessary for women to become more aware of gynecological cancers and what the signs and symptoms are. How many

"Why am I telling you all of this? Because I firmly believe my purpose these days is to educate women about uterine/ovarian cancers and raise awareness for it and cold capping. We are all aware of breast cancer thanks to all of the pink, but it's necessary for women to become more aware of gynecological cancers and what the signs and symptoms are."

found in all of my female organs. I had six rounds of carboplatin/taxol (and I cold capped to keep my hair—something I dearly wish more women knew about). I had 25 rounds of radiation to my pelvis. That was followed by 30 rounds of radiation to lymph nodes in my neck. The cancer is not stable in the nodes in my pelvis but thankfully the ones in my neck seem to be free of disease. Because of all of this I had to have hernia repair surgery and my L4/L5 disk shredded (likely because of the radiation) and I had to have surgery to stabilize my spine. I now have lymphedema in my left leg thanks to the cancer....

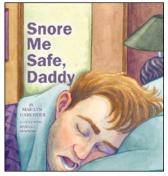
I may have cancer but I continue to work at Houston Christian High

reading this know about breast cancer awareness? Almost all, I'd bet. But how many give any thought to uterine cancer? I'm likely to die from it. Life expectancy for my cancer is five years—and I'm on year three.

I don't want another sister to die from it, especially if something as simple as awareness could help.

I write a blog, shrinkingviolettheblog.blogspot.com. I started it when I was first diagnosed. I don't need you to read all of it or follow it, but I do describe the signs, symptoms, and tests in the early posts. I hope that you or another sister will never need the information ... but one day you might be glad you have it.

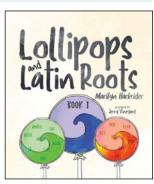
MARILYN HARKRIDER, A WRITER'S EDUCATION BY INTERNET











New alumnae club member Marilyn Harvin Harkrider, Kentucky Alpha, writes children's books. They are delightful and far-ranging books about Santa, or Latin roots, or a Cajun kitty named Mademoiselle Meringue. But for our newsletter, the story is different. It is about a writer's education by internet.

Marilyn had begun writing children's books years ago, and our story begins when she wanted to upgrade one of her original works, "Santa's Lap," with color illustrations. Her publisher wanted her to change the title, but Marilyn loved it. "Why?" she asked. "Google it," her publisher replied. Marilyn is sorry to report that googling "Santa's lap" does not return links suitable for children.

But Google also helped her in a more heartwarming way. One day, googling for some piece of information, as one does these days, the "Google doodle" that came up on the website—you know, the little seasonal or commemorative graphic Google runs from time to time—had been drawn by a young girl who had won a high school illustration contest. The illustration perfectly matched the illustrations in Marilyn's mind's eye for her books.

Trouble was, a stranger can't easily find a minor's contact information, even with a name and hometown.

Marilyn found local interviews with the artist, but neither the newspaper nor radio stations would even forward Marilyn's contact information and short explainer to the girl's mother. So she looked up homeschool Facebook groups in Fayetteville and finally found her mother via a group



congratulating one of their teenagers for winning an illustration contest. She took a chance it was the same girl and messaged the mother. Soon Marilyn learned that Hanna Newsom's dream was to be a children's book illustrator. A partnership was born. They have worked together for seven years now, and Hanna illustrates all of Marilyn's fantasy books.

The picture at left is Marilyn at a Neiman Marcus Santa event this past December, and you may find her books at marilynsbooknook.com.

Noteworthy



Tina Khosrowshahi

At TCU, Tina Khosrowshahi, a junior from Houston, recently accepted a supply chain internship at Cheniere and received two scholarships this past month: the ISM Fort Worth Scholarship and the Virginia Clay Foundation Scholarship.



Also at TCU, Caddie Dull, a graduating senior, received the Hutchinson Scholarship to SMU Law School. She will attend SMU Law this fall after graduating magna cum laude in December.

Caddie Dull



Tech active our club helped support while she was here in Houston in treatment for cancer—as of October, she is cancer

Shave Romero, the Texas



A SUCCESSFUL RECRUITMENT SEASON

THANK YOU Houston Pi Phis! You did a great job navigating the online RIF system. As a result of everyone's cooperation and patience, we were able to process over 400 potential new members (PNMs) this year through the club. We have welcomed 45 new members so far this recruitment cycle. We look forward to updating everyone after January recruitment.

Watch our Instagram @houstonpiphi for recruitment pictures from our deferred recruitment schools.

RECRUITMENT SUPPORT

COLLEGIATE CORNER

Our dues structure changed this year, resulting in the need to independently raise funds to support the chapters our Houston PNMs attended in the fall and will attend in the spring. Alumnae were encouraged to donate chapter support funds to the schools of their choice. These funds were used to provide meals, snacks, and/or posters to encourage and support our chapters during recruitment. (The amount of money raised per chapter dictates the level of support that we are able to give.)

Thank yous go to the Houston Pi Phi Mothers' Club for a donation of \$2,000 this year. Their donation, along with the generosity of our members, allowed us to allocate extra funds to our largest recruitment chapters. Thank you to all who participated by contributing individual donations to the following chapters:

• Alabama Alpha: \$25

• Colorado Alpha: \$160

Florida Delta: \$25

• Lousiana Beta: \$50

Mississippi Beta: \$130

• Missouri Beta: \$100

• Oklahoma Alpha: \$25

• Texas Alpha: \$2,395 (\$800 from the UT mothers' club)

• Texas Beta: \$1,500

• Texas Delta: \$25

• Texas Eta: \$1,280

• Texas Gamma: \$410

Texas Zeta: \$500

• TN Beta: \$175

LOOKING FORWARD TO RECRUITMENT 2020-21

Last year, National launched a new online RIF for referring a potential new member (PNM) to a college chapter. Collegians loved the online RIF process and encourage alumnae to use it instead of the paper format. In order for our Recruitment Committee to be aware of your PNM, however, you must follow the steps on the Houston Alumnae Club recruitment page. We provide a direct link to the online RIF and an option for you to submit other information, like a letter of support, via email. Our dedicated Recruitment Committee will confirm receipt of all information with the collegiate chapters.

The Recruitment Committee requests that alumnae submit all RIFs by May 10.

PHOTO ALBUM

Photos with Santa in December

Adrienne Bash and Lauren Wood hosted our Photos with Santa gathering, which also included sugar rush cookie decorating.









Holiday Party

Greggory Fields Burk hosted our annual holiday party, which is a December gathering of our members, their junior and senior daughters, college actives, and the Pi Phi Mother's Club members.

The weather was superb. The carol singers delighted us. The cheese soufflé was delicious. A festive time was had by all. Many thanks to Greggory for a lovely afternoon.















Foundation members at Texas Children's Hospital in November



Favorite Things Party in October

Elizabeth Vail hosted our second Favorite Things sisterhood event. After the hand and feet pampering theme that emerged from last year's event, this year's favorite things ranged from luscious lip treatments to fresh flowers and think-green gizmos to travel totes. And as multi-tasking women and proud Houstonians, we even had the Astros game on in the background.

Many thanks to Elizabeth.





Wine Pairing – Sisterhood Event

Katherine Murphy hosted a wine tasting and pairing lesson in her home.











