

The Sundancer

A Newsletter for Gamma Sigma Alumnae

Volume 3, Number 1
February 2000

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome!

Hello and welcome to The Sundancer, a newsletter for Gamma Sigma alumnae. It has been nearly three years since we began plans for a newsletter created by alumnae for alumnae, and our first issue was mailed over a year ago. When we started this project, we had only the addresses of a few recent grads. Through the help of Alumni Affairs, the availability of yearbooks and school directories, and other Gamma alumnae, we've accumulated hundreds of addresses. So far we've secured a mailing list of over 250 Gammas and every decade is represented back to the 1920's. Our most recent efforts have led us to you. The newsletter staff and I have spent many, many hours reviewing Gamma documents and the college's directory in an effort to compile names and addresses. Our mailing list is growing by leaps and bounds, and we'd love to include YOU!

The newsletter was created as an attempt to re-establish contact with a large group of alumnae and create a centralized database of addresses

that could be easily updated. The newsletter will be used as a forum for sharing memories and updates, and for announcing alumnae events. Last year we had our first newsletter-sponsored Alumnae Tea Party, and we are currently planning for a celebration of Gamma's 115-year anniversary (see details inside). As interest continues to grow among our alumnae, we will plan several more events throughout the year. We will also, of course, share news from the active members on campus.

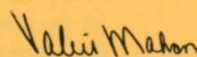
As you can probably imagine, it is difficult to make a newsletter interesting and exciting for an audience that spans seven decades, but we are determined to succeed. We plan to make each issue a balance of the new and the old. We've received suggestions from many of our alumnae to include articles that focus on a particular pledge class, both their memories of Gamma and an update on what they've done since college. We think this is a great idea that will be interesting to everyone, so don't be surprised if we contact you!

Owing to the costs involved in running the newsletter, we are asking each of you to complete the enclosed questionnaire so that we can confirm your address and your interest in receiving further mailings. Our biggest expenses are postage and paper. We are asking our subscribers to help us to defray these expenses by either providing us with an e-mail address so that we can send the newsletter cost-free, participating in fundraisers and events, or sending a periodic donation.

We will continue contacting alumni over the next several months, so we would love your help finding missing alumnae. I urge you all to discuss the newsletter with other sisters. If they haven't received a questionnaire or they haven't sent in their response, encourage them to contact me.

I hope you enjoy your first issue of The Sundancer, and I hope to hear from you soon!

Gamma's Love,



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EDITORIAL STAFF

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FEATURES EDITOR:

Tamsin Ash

EVENTS EDITOR:

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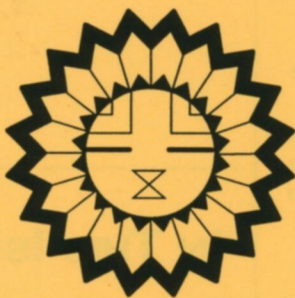
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*Donations can be mailed to Valerie Mahon.
Checks can be made payable to The Sundancer.*



CONTRIBUTORS

Written contributions and photos may be sent to Valerie by postal or electronic mail.

MEET THE EDITORIAL STAFF



The Editorial Staff (l-r): Valerie, Melissa, Tamsin and Kim

Valerie (Hamann) Mahon will be serving as the managing editor of the newsletter. She pledged in the spring of 1991 and is a member of the Thunderbird Arrowhead Feather family. During her tenure she served as IGC Representative, Pledge Master and Fundraising Chairperson. She graduated Trenton State with a BA in English and minors in Law & Justice and Psychology. She was married in September of 1996 to Sean (Skippy) Mahon, a brother of Alpha Psi Chi. She is currently working as an assistant editor for a non-profit medical publisher. She began study for a master's degree in English Literature & Publishing last fall. As managing editor she is in charge of the coordination of the writing, editing and proofreading efforts. She is also the alumni contact.

Production Manager Kim Mazier pledged Gamma in the fall of 1991. She is a part of the Thunderbird Arrowhead Feather family. During her days as an active sister, she held the positions of Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and Publicity Director. Since earning a BFA in graphic design in 1994, she has been working in the desktop publishing field. With her experience, she has been an asset in the development of The Sundancer by designing the page layout and creating the graphics.

Tamsin Ash pledged Gamma Sigma in the spring of 1993 and is in the Thunderbird Arrowhead Feather family. She has held sorority positions as Social Chair and Vice President and served on the IGC Executive Board as the Vice President of Rush and New Member Development. In May of 1996, she received a BS in Business Administration with a minor in International Business. She currently works in the home equity division of Mortgage Access, a subsidiary of Weichert Realtors. Tamsin joins us on The Sundancer staff as our features editor where her duties include reporting on Greek life at the college and organizing special alumni projects. She also acts as our historian, collecting memorabilia and photos to put into scrapbooks.

Our events editor is Melissa Wood. She pledged Gamma in the spring of 1993. She is a member of the Wampum Tomahawk family and is affectionately known as Hollywood XIII. While an active sister of Gamma, she held offices such as Pledge Master and Song Mistress. She graduated from TSC in the spring of 1996 with a BA in Sociology and a minor in Women's Studies. She is currently working as a survey associate for Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., a social policy research company. As our events editor she is responsible for planning and reporting on alumni events such as the Alumni Tea Party and reunions. She will serve as chairperson on our newly forming social committee. She will also be The Sundancer's liaison between the alumni and the active sisters.

GAMMA SIGMA NEWS

ALUMNAE REUNION

Mark your calendars! Gamma Sigma's 115th anniversary will be celebrated on May 6th, 2000 at the Holiday Inn on Rt. 1 in Princeton. The event will be held from 6-10 p.m. and a discounted hotel rate will be available for those of you who want to stay over. The cost will be \$65 per person, which includes hors d'oeuvres, a sit-down dinner, dessert, and an open bar. All gratuities, including the bar, are included in that price. Invitations will be mailed in March. Feel free to pass this information along to alumnae who haven't received a newsletter.

DIRECTORY

The Sundancer staff will be spending the next several months compiling the addresses of our alumnae newsletter subscribers and organizing them into a directory that will be distributed to all of our subscribers. We hope that the directory will be available in time for the reunion. If you wish to be included, we must hear from you soon! To be included, and to receive future Sundancer newsletters, you must complete and return the enclosed questionnaire so that we can confirm your address and your interest in receiving future mailings. We look forward to hearing from you!

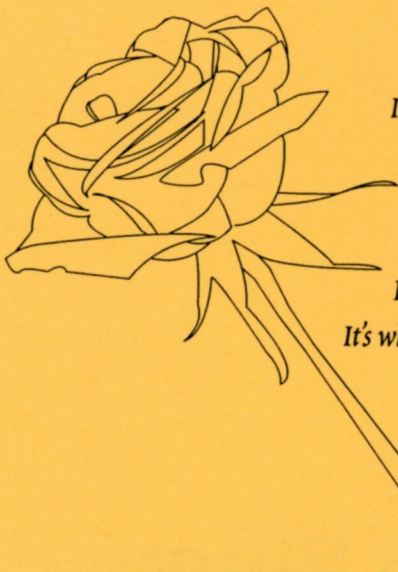
WEB SITE

For our computer savvy alumnae, we are in the process of developing a web site for Gamma news. Valerie is presently taking a web design course and hopes to have a prototype available within the next couple of months. We will keep you all posted on this new development.

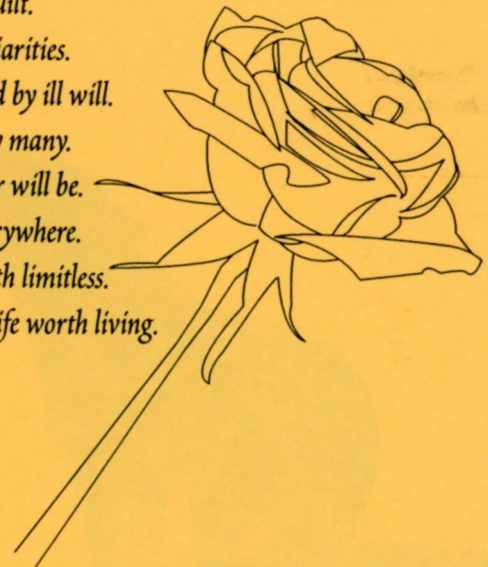
SURVEY RESULTS

Thanks to all of our alumnae who completed the survey this summer. Your answers were very informative. Based on your responses, we will plan to have 3-4 activities throughout the year, including alumnae tea party in the spring and an alumnae picnic in the summer. Anyone interested in helping to plan these activities should contact Melissa (see page 2 for her contact information). We look forward to meeting all of you!

We will also be adding some new features to the content of the newsletter, but we will need the help of our subscribers in order to make it work. We will include many more articles on our alumnae, their memories, and updates on what they are doing now. We will be randomly contacting alumnae of a particular pledge class, and we ask that when contacted you take some time to jot down your thoughts and memories. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.



*It's as old as woman herself,
Yet as new as this moment or the next.
It's ever changing and somehow ever constant.
It's stronger than any wall ever built.
It overcomes differences and unfamiliarities.
It can't be blinded by prejudices or blocked by ill will.
It has been pondered and analyzed by many.
Yet it has never been defined and never will be.
You can't see it or touch it, yet it is everywhere.
Its possibilities are infinite, and its strength limitless.
It's what makes women human, what makes life worth living.
It's Sisterhood.
It's Gamma Sigma.*






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