

THE PHOTA



The *Phota* (the Greek word for lights) is a publication of the Valparaiso University Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils



A Century of Sisterhood at Valparaiso University

The sorority community celebrated 100 years of sorority life at Valparaiso University during Homecoming 2017. The Panhellenic Council had the opportunity to welcome back hundreds of sorority women, and each had the chance to see what sorority life is like on campus today. The women were able to tour the new sorority housing complex as well as sport their affiliation buttons all over campus. It was wonderful to witness countless sorority women and sisters reconnect with one another.



To cap off the Centennial Celebration, the Panhellenic Council hosted a Century of Sisterhood luncheon. The luncheon included a presentation of photos from formals, SongFest, and events in Scheele Hall. The women all cheered when they saw their group or recognized themselves or a friend in a picture. We heard from Dolores Ruosch, Jennifer Jones-Hall, and Carrie Whittier who all have advised the sorority community from 1961 to today. Each spoke of the memories they have, and their experiences working with the sororities on campus.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- October 13: *Kappa Kappa Gamma Founders Day*
- October 16 - 20: *Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week*
- October 20: *Career Fair*
- October 21: *All-Sorority Service Event at Taltree*
- October 21: *Sigma Phi Epsilon Spooktacular*
- October 23: *Kappa Delta Founders Day*
- October 24: *LGBT & Greek Panel*
- October 26: *Life After College Session 1*
- October 27 - 29: *Family Weekend*
- Oct. 30 – Nov. 3: *GUARDS Clothesline Project*
- November 1: *Sigma Phi Epsilon Founders Day*
- November 2: *Lambda Chi Alpha Founders Day*

The Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils had the pleasure of naming Dolores Ruosch, otherwise known as “Dean Dody,” the inaugural inductee into the Laurel Wreath Society. The Laurel Wreath Society honors an individual who has contributed to philanthropic initiatives and/or public service and a commitment to advancing the fraternity and sorority experience at a local or national level. Dean Dody was an advocate for women while she was at Valpo and worked towards creating a way for women to share their voice. It was wonderful to have her back on campus to celebrate this monumental milestone. All the celebration and excitement has sorority women looking forward to seeing all that can be accomplished in the next 100 years.

Chapter Spotlight:

Kappa Delta

In July, at their 62nd Biennial Convention in Phoenix, Arizona, the women of Kappa Delta were recognized as a National Merit Chapter. The Merit Award is given to Kappa Delta's top 10% of chapters across the country for showcasing excellence in the areas of academics, membership, philanthropy, community service and chapter management, and is the highest award a collegiate chapter can receive!

Becoming a top tier Merit chapter has always been a goal the Zeta Psi chapter of Kappa Delta has wanted to achieve, and the women of the chapter are thrilled and honored that all of their hard work and service over the last few years has paid off! Kappa Delta has continued to grow as a chapter and is excited to see what the next biennium brings!



Fraternities and Sororities Participate in the Annual Relay for Life at Valpo



The Valparaiso University chapter of Colleges Against Cancer hosted another successful Relay for Life event on September 23, 2017. This year's event was birthday themed, with the intent of raising money so that people can experience more birthdays instead of cancer. The event, which was chaired by Jenna Longon of Kappa Delta, was a great event in which almost every fraternity and sorority had a team!



The men of Phi Kappa Psi were the top fundraising team for this year's Relay for Life event raising more than \$2,000 for the American Cancer Society. Sam Macy from Sigma Phi Epsilon was the highest individual fundraiser for the event raising more than \$1,000! Lambda Chi Alpha was one of the hour-long features during Relay for Life as the men shaved a brother's head in promotion of their upcoming philanthropy event, St. Baldrick's.

At the end of the long, 12 hour day, Relay for Life raised a grand total of \$15,277.07 for cancer research. All of this money will be used so that one day, we can find a cure so more people can celebrate more birthdays!

Have a story to share in the next issue of *The Photo*?

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