



The Rosevine

Toronto Area Alumnae Chapter (TAAC)

Fall Issue 2016

Welcome to our Newsletter!

Hello Everyone and welcome to our annual newsletter.

Each year we balance a selection of different activities that allow us to celebrate friendship, support our young collegiate sisters and do philanthropic work. You'll see through this newsletter that we keep busy and enjoy each others' company. Our goal is to support our three collegiate Chapters (Beta Tau, Iota Chi and Lambda Epsilon) and to be active in the community. Check out our calendar for the upcoming year.

Remember AOII isn't just for our university years but for life. We'd love for you to join us at an activity, a meeting or become a member of our group. It is our hope that membership in TAAC can continue to expand with fun, innovative programming aimed to appeal to all our members.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Tracy Cooper, President TAAC



2016/17 Upcoming Activities

Sunday, September 11 – Strike out Arthritis

Saturday, September 18 - Terry Fox Run

September 16, 17, 18 – Beta Tau Recruitment

Monday, September 26 – 7:30 PM arrival, 8 PM start – TAAC Meeting at Linda Nichols' Home

Monday, October 17 –8 PM – Apple Pie Day at Beta Tau House, 24 Madison Avenue

Monday, October 24 – 7:30 PM arrival, 8 PM start – TAAC Meeting at Arlene Roeder's Home

Sunday, November 13 – AGO Outing

Saturday, November 19 – Beta Tau Initiation at 24 Madison Avenue

Monday, December 5 – 8 PM – TAAC Meeting
Conference Call

Sunday, January 8 – 5:00 PM start – Founders Day Dinner at Pizzario Libretto – 550 Danforth Avenue

Saturday, January 21 – 11 AM to 1 PM – TAAC Brunch and Meeting at Beta Tau House

Friday, February 10 – 6:30 PM – Winterlicious Dinner

Early March – AO Power of Movement

Monday, March 6 – NPC Badge Day, Sisterhood Soiree celebration and Annual General Meeting at 7:30 PM

Wednesday, April 19 – 7:30 PM arrival, 8 PM start – TAAC Meeting at Tracy Cooper's Home

1st week of May – 6:30 PM Girls' Night Out at The Maddy

June – Graduate Celebration

Monday, June 12 — TAAC Meeting



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Garden Party Success

Once again the Alumnae and Active members living in the Greater Toronto Area, had a lovely afternoon Garden Party event this past May. It was a great success on many levels. The weather was perfect, everyone enjoyed themselves, we were able to catch up on the latest events and we welcomed 10 new members into the alumnae status. Thank you to Leslie Benkhe Hall for hosting another Garden event.

Thank you to our TAAC Members

A big shout out to the following women who have paid their annual dues from 2015 - 16. With their support we have been able to contribute monies to our philanthropies, scholarships, special items for the active chapters and our communications. Thank you to.....

Megan Archer	Kristina Hunt
Elizabeth Bang	Stefanie Menezes
Leslie Behnke Hall	Marilyn Mirabelli
Morleen Bousfield	Linda Nichols
Michelle Angeletti	Barbara Otton
Tracy Cooper	Juliana Prah
Dana Friedrichsen	Arlene Roeder
Marina Georgieva	Shannon Smith
Heidi Harris	Alina Usataia
Jingchan Hu	McKenna Wild



Garden Party Attendees

"If you have given a dollar, you are part of the Marathon of Hope." Terry Fox, 1980

Since 1997 our AOII team has raised \$22,547.87!!! These funds have a huge impact on cancer research in Canada, and will contribute to breakthroughs and progress being made every day.

As special supporters of Terry's legacy, please join the worldwide effort to find cures for all cancers at the 36th Annual Terry Fox Run.

On Sunday, September 18, participants will run, walk, bike and blade to raise funds.

AOIIs across Canada can register and donate at <http://www.terryfox.ca/aoii>

For more information contact Kristina Hunt -- kristinahunt@rogers.com



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2016 – 17 TAAC Executive Team

President, Tracy Cooper, *toronto.alumnae@gmail.com*

Vice President, Leslie Behnke Hall, *lbh424@aol.com*

Treasurer & Terry Fox Run Coordinator & To Dragma, Kristina Hunt, *kristinahunt@rogers.com*

Toronto Area Alumnae Panhellenic Representative, Linda Nichols, *toronto.alumnae@gmail.com*

Newsletter Editor & Founders Day Coordinator, Arlene Roeder, *arlene.roeder@gmail.com*

Communications, Shannon Smith, *toronto.alumnae@gmail.com*

Recording Secretary, McKenna Wild, *mckennawild@gmail.com*

Collegiate Relations, Karen Cook, *karen.cook@ryerson.ca*

Website Editor and Blogger, Liz Bang, *workingpandaoii@gmail.com*

New Member Chair, Marilyn Mirabelli, *marilynshome1@gmail.com*

Power of Movement Report



This event just keeps getting better and better. This year's team of Jacqueminot Roses (Linda Nichols, Shannon Smith, Tracy Cooper, Juliana Prah and Stefanie Menezes) enjoyed 3 kinds of Yoga, hair braiding, henna tattoo roses and lunch catered by freshii in this fun fundraiser for arthritis research in Toronto. Our location was the Ryerson gym, but events are held across Canada in early March each year.

I was also very pleased that the TAAC voted to use the arthritis donation we collect with our dues to sponsor our team on an ongoing basis. The Arthritis Research Foundation is one of the foundations of the University Health Network in Toronto. Information for Power of Movement 2017 will be available late in 2016. Let me know if you'd like to join us.

Linda Nichols



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Founders' Day Report

Please join us to our 2016 Founders' Day Celebration at the Cricket Club on Saturday November 5th. Our guest speaker this year is Karin Vagiste. Karin is the author of the book "Settle It". She is also a distinguished mediator and seminar leader who has appeared as a guest on national television and radio stations all over North America. She has become a highly sought after speaker and we are looking forward to hearing Karin's message.

We also want to take this time to thank Marina Georgieva for her leadership on coordinating past FD events.

As in past years, the FD cost remains at \$45 for TAAC members and \$50 for non TAAC members. The luncheon is included in the membership form at the back of this newsletter. We hope to see you on November 5th.

The Working Panda Report

The Working Panda continues to get better each year with contributions from our AOII sisters. Our website address in the footer of this newsletter, so check us out!

Toronto Area Alumnae Panhellenic (TAAP) Report

One thing I like about being an AOII alumna is the chance to befriend women of different ages and stages of life. My membership in TAAP expands that to interesting women from other sororities and universities, too.

This year's TAAP Spring Scholarship Luncheon speaker, Lorraine Zander, founded Faze Magazine, and is a great speaker. She is a champion of women supporting women in business and has dedicated her life to helping young women further their lives in an entertaining and motivating way. I liked that that she wasn't saying that you always have to work harder and achieve more. What you are already doing is important. Even small drops of water fill a bucket; these everyday examples we set also inspire young women. I am already looking forward to next year's luncheon. Our Scholarship Luncheon Chair, Andreia McLean, an event planner and recent Alpha Phi alumna from Wilfred Laurier University, is one of the many interesting women I have met through TAAP.

I'll post dates for the TAAP events and scholarship info in the TAAC Facebook group as they become available. Please let me know if you'd like to join. Membership costs \$20 and there is a first year free program when you graduate. **Linda Nichols, AOII Delegate to TAAP**

Strike Out Arthritis – International Event in Toronto

Since 2010, Alpha Omicron Pi has partnered with MLB teams across North America to host fundraising events for our Strike Out Arthritis! initiative. Each year ticket sales and attendance grow which allows for our donation to the Arthritis Foundation. Help cheer on the Toronto Blue Jays at AOII's Strike Out Arthritis! game as they take on the Boston Red Sox on September 11 at 1:07pm. For specific questions about the game please contact Alex LeForge, Assistant Director of Branding and Events at Alpha Omicron Pi International at aleforge@alphaomicronpi.org or [615-370-0920](tel:615-370-0920).
http://www.alphaomicronpi.org/Websites/alphaomicronpi/images/bluejays_ticket_info_website.pdf



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New members of the TAAC

We are pleased to introduce 2 sisters who recently joined the TAAC. If you are a new graduate, or recently moved to the Toronto area, please contact Marilyn Mirabelli, at marilynshome1@gmail.com. Once your TAAC dues are paid, we will welcome you 'officially' with a profile in Rosevine....just like the following ladies....

Melanie Osmond is from Lambda Epsilon (Waterloo) and is perusing an event management graduate certificate at Conestoga College. "The AOII sisterhood has taught me how to encompass and represent my own values in everyday life. I have also learned so much from my sisters who have constantly been a support to me and shown me what it means to be there for someone unconditionally," says Melanie.

When Melanie is not busy, she describes a perfectly lazy weekend as reading in front of a fire listening to music.



Marilyn Mirabelli is a Kappa Phi (McGill) alum. A self-described free spirit, Marilyn thinks nothing of hopping on her bike or donning hiking boots to explore the world. In fact, her dream is to bike and hike around the world. Memorable hikes to date have included the Fife Coastal Path from Edinburgh to St. Andrews, the northern part of the Bruce Trail, the coast of Normandy, the East Coast Trail in Newfoundland and Labrador.

"The AOII sisterhood will always mean life-long friendships - friendships to renew fun and wonderful memories and to remember the shared values of sisterhood," says Marilyn. "The alum relationship is about friendships across generations and across many collegiate chapters. But we share the common spirit of AOII." In the words of one of Stella George Perry, a founding sister, "In our sisterhood there are no sharply divided age groups as on the campus, but the generations shade into one another with a pleasant imperceptibility."

Marilyn's idea of a lazy weekend includes physical activities, duly rewarded by a glass, or two, of wine.



Updates from the Active Chapters

Beta Tau

On Sunday, June 5, 2016, AOII alumni and several Beta Tau collegiate members, along with this year's sweetheart, joined Canadians coast-to-coast in the Walk to Fight Arthritis. Our women decided to walk, run, volunteer and raise funds for The Arthritis Society, to support over 4.6 million Canadians who live with arthritis. For the first time in our chapter's history, we formed a team to collect donations and represent our sorority on a national basis at one of The Arthritis Society's biggest events, "The Walk to Fight Arthritis". The team surpassed its original goal and had to set an even bigger goal, pleasantly surprised by how much our family, friends and the Greek community as a whole, supported us and what we are fighting towards: a cure for arthritis. In addition to the money raised at AOPizza night, one of our two annual philanthropies, we had raised \$3,269.70 through online fundraising, making our total donations to the Arthritis Society a whopping \$4569.70. This year was a huge success but we hope to see a larger turnout of both active and alumni members at next year's event. We'll definitely be there so look out for our red shirts!



24 Madison Update

We would like to thank Courtney Holmes our past our House Manager who spent many hours keeping the house in working order and we appreciate her dedication to us and to AOII. Jessica Smith is our new House Manager. Jessica was initiated into Lambda Epsilon Chapter in 2009, where she studied

Classical Studies and History. She has served as the Chapter Adviser for Lambda Epsilon since 2013. Currently Jessica is currently studying Film Production at Toronto Film School.

Update on the house: Renovations have not started yet. A contractor has done a preliminary scan of the house and has given his feedback back to Headquarters on what needs to be fixed. Hopefully these renovations begin soon. Potential renovations (as suggested by the contractor) include redoing the wood on the main floor, putting carpets in all the bedrooms, redoing the top two bathrooms, installing windows that open, and fixing up the kitchen countertop.

Recruitment

Round one starts on Friday, September 16. Time: 4 - 9 PM; Place: OISE room TBA. Alumnae are welcome in any number and will be asked to wear a marker clearly indicating their alumnae status. No donations accepted.

Round 2 starts on Saturday, September 17, noon to 6 PM at the Beta Tau house. Alumnae are welcome and will be asked to wear an alumnae indicator and must be in the house 30 minutes prior to the start of the day. No donations accepted.

Round 3 starts on Sunday, September 18 at 10:30am at the Beta Tau house. The attire is black dresses and heels – "That's all relative!" Donations of 3 dozen roses would be gratefully accepted.

For further information you can direct them to Michelle Angeletti at angeletti.michelle@gmail.com..

Lambda Epsilon

Lambda Epsilon had the pleasure of sending off ten senior sisters this past Winter term. Though it's sad to see them leave our collegiate chapter, we know that they're moving on into bigger and better things! A few sisters are off to post-graduate and new college programs, others are looking to enter the workforce and one lucky sister is heading abroad! Lambda Epsilon wishes these sisters the best in

their future endeavors and hopes they know that there will always be a place called home here.

Over the summer, Lambda Epsilon has had the pleasure of sending Chapter President, Chapter Treasurer and New Member Educator to Tennessee to be a part of the story! Here is a photo of some of the Canadian sisters who attended the information filled weekend full of Alpha Love and Panda Hugs.



Iota Chi

Alpha Omicron Pi's Iota Chi chapter has had a very eventful year.

Starting the year off, we had an amazing sisterhood event in October at Apple Land Country Station! This event was a lot of fun since our new members were able to interact with each other while picking apples and pumpkins! As well, on the 25th, we celebrated our 29th Founders Day with a mother

and daughter brunch at London's Windermere Manor.

Hosting our second annual Strike Out Arthritis event at Fleetway Bowling Alley in November, we had a lot of fun bowling against each other and against our brothers in many Western University fraternities. This fun event generated much awareness to The Arthritis Society! Soon after, our sisters participated in The Arthritis Society – Ontario South West Region's Jingle Bell Walk. Despite the snow, we



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had a great time raising money for arthritis research. Later that month, we had a sister hood event at West London CrossFit Studio. Hosted by our own alumna Jacquie Richards, we had a wonderful time working out!

In March, we had our annual AOII Goes Blue for Arthritis event. Set up in our 'University Community Centre', we raised awareness to students as well as gave out complimentary baked goods and iced tea!

This summer, Nicole Nesci (New Member Educator), Felicia Naraine (President) and Lauren Rainville (Social Chair) attended the 2016 Leadership Institute in Brentwood, Tennessee. Our chapter was honoured to have received awards for our Strike Out Arthritis, Total Honor Roll, and Quota Honor Roll!

We are looking forward to September!



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TAAC Membership and Founders' Day Form – Please join us this year!!

Name: _____

Chapter of Initiation: _____ Year of Initiation: _____

Address: *(Please include postal code)*

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Please select your choice of the membership option:

- Alumna Membership \$63, or
- First Year on Us Membership *(for recent graduate)* \$25, or
- Life Loyal Membership *(for sisters who paid Life Loyal dues to HQ)* \$45.
- Founders' Day *(TAAC Members)* \$45, or
- Founders' Day *(non TAAC Members)* \$50.

Please select your choice(s) of optional donation(s):

- Rose Donation *(collegiate chapter support)* \$10
- Gold Donation *(Arthritis Research-Power of Movement)* \$10
- Pearl Donation *(Canadian AOII Foundation)* \$10

TOTAL ENCLOSED (Dues+Founders Day+ Donation) \$_____

TAAC accepts e-transfers at kristinahunt@rogers.com Please (use alpha as the password),

Or, please make cheques payable to: TORONTO AREA ALUMNAE CHAPTER

Mail this form and cheque (if e-transfer not used) to:

TAAC c/o Kristina Hunt
41 Fairleigh Cres. Toronto, ON M6C 3S1