

New ALTO

Spring 2020

Kappa Kappa Psi & Tau Beta Sigma

Adventure is Out There!

To everyone who helps make the New ALTO possible, we thank you.

We would especially like to thank the members of the New ALTO Team! Each member of this team has put in so much hard work into making sure that the New ALTO can be its very best.

This publication happens only because of the incredible brothers and sisters here in the Southwest, so *thank you*.

Keep it spicy and always strive for the highest!

MLITB <3

Rachael Baca
SWD VPP

Wendy Stewart
SWD VPSP



Erica Wilson
TBΣ Psi
Copy Editor



Megan Cross
KKΨ Lambda
Copy Editor



Christopher Bailon
KKΨ Gamma Iota
Design Editor



Kelly Gage
KKΨ Gamma Theta
Public Relations Officer



Rachael Baca
KKΨ Gamma Iota
SWD VPP



Wendy Stewart
TBΣ Psi
SWD VPSP

What does it mean to you, sister?

What does it mean to you, sister?

When we come together for a chapter
When we volunteer for kids in schools
When we sing together, hand in hand
When we play together, in a band

What does it mean to you, sister?

When you take a little out to lunch
When you help a sister who is in need
When you meet sisters you've never seen
When you go places you've never been

What does it mean to you, sister?



Joshua Cole - TBΣ Delta

My favorite thing about TBS

Is going to chapter.

To me, going to chapter after a long and arduous week of schoolwork is the best thing. I love seeing the faces of all my friends gathered into one place, being goofy and eating snacks and just being great. Being in the Delta chapter here at the University at Oklahoma is always a good time. Coming in and being surrounded by people I enjoy is very therapeutic, and it helps me personally unwind and escape. It doesn't feel like I'm a student, but a friend, and part of something much bigger than myself. There are some chapters where we kick our shoes off before, during, and or after singing (or even before we even get to vote on closing chapter).

New People, New Adventures

The past year for the Epsilon Beta Chapter at the University of Central Arkansas has put us through a lot of changes. The biggest change, pun intended, was an explosive growth in our membership. This growth has brought in more people to not only expand our service for the bands that we were already doing but has also brought in so many more people with different ideas. These new ways of thinking have brought about some changes in how we do things, expediting processes already in place, and bringing in new ideas of how to help serve the bands to a greater extent.

Our current MCs for the Spring 2020 semester have asked us so many questions about the things that we do for the bands and have seen how we conduct things from the outside looking in and have given us a lot of feedback. Whether it is seeing how we are doing something, like fixing stands, and trying to improve the process by offering different suggestions on how we go about it. It is refreshing to have a new perspective on services we do and keep us out of the rut of “we do this this way because it is what we always have done”. We are so grateful for their ideas and confidence to present their ideas to the chapter. They also just have so much energy and ideas towards Kappa Kappa Psi that they have come up to various officers and told them their ideas for other service projects, recruitment events, fundraisers and brotherhood events.

This year has also been an adventure for our brothers in general though, because of our rapid growth there needed to be a lot of things looked into that worked fine for a seven person chapter that gets hindered when you have almost a twenty person chapter. We have to be more flexible with our time because of so many people’s different schedules but we also want to offer as many opportunities to serve throughout the year as we can. For example, this semester we started doing basketball adopt-a-bands. By doing this it has taken us to new high schools that don’t have football teams that we have never had the chance to reach out to through our football adopt-a-bands that we do every fall semester. We were a little tentative about doing something new and never done before in our chapter but overall it was a great experience for both us and the high schoolers. There have been a lot of different ideas for various other service projects that we are planning on implementing later throughout the year and while these would be something new for the chapter, we know it will be a new adventure that we will go through and pass tips and tricks of how to do it better every year down through the chapter.

Overall there’s been a lot of changes in the Epsilon Beta chapter and it has thoroughly been an adventure getting to where we are now. We are looking forward to what the next years of serving will bring us in the future.



KKΨ - Epsilon Beta

My Time as a Sister

Year One

Meeting new sisters
New membership candidates
New bonds are forming

Year Two

Getting our littles
Representing T B S
Growing our chapter



Erica Nadolski - TBΣ Delta

Year Three

Families are growing
Service, music, sisterhood
Making an impact

Year Four

Saying tough goodbyes
Nostalgia and memories
Best part of college

Tau Beta Scramble

1. Oosrdseith
2. Wvaa esban ruenrt enhry
3. Tdeal
4. Nwe atlo
5. ervcies
6. Miusc
7. Dalpheeisr
8. Utrail
9. Eredeg
10. Pmbiemhers



Andrea Gordon - TBΣ Delta

Key:
Sisterhood
Wava Banes Turner Henry
Delta
New Alto
Service
Music
Ritual
Degree
Membership

A Huge Thank You

It seems only fitting that this submission, my last submission as a council member, be a huge thank you! I will also add some advice I picked up along the way. Here we go...

To my chapter, Gamma Tau: Thank you for always being there to support me. While the road has not always been easy, I am so PROUD of how far we have come. You are truly some of the most incredible people, and I am so happy that all of you are my life-long friends.

To my Big Sis, Morgan: I could not have made it through the education process, any term in office, running for council, etc. without you. You have always been my #1 supporter, cheerleader, teacher, and best friend. You're the best, and I can't wait to make many more memories with you.

To our Counselors & National Leadership: Each of you has made a huge impact in my life. I would not be the person I am today without your example and guidance. Thank you for believing in me, supporting me, and pushing me to be the best I can be.

To both Councils: Thank you for all being so awesome! It has been such a joy to work with all of you. Each of you has made an impact on this district and I can't wait to see where you go in the future.

To Hannah: You are an amazing counterpart, Brother, and life long friend. Thank you for volunteering to do crazy things with me (like re-run for council), staying positive, ALWAYS being ready to help, and being a true friend. You are going to do incredible things for both our organizations, and I'm so excited to watch you.

To the Southwest: I am beyond grateful to have been able to service our district twice. Thank you for trusting me, supporting me, and allowing me to help. You are truly some of the most incredible people I have ever met, and I feel so blessed to have had this opportunity. I hope I have given you half as much as you have given me. I have so much love for all of you.

General Advice For Active Members

- ~Take all the opportunities given to you
- ~ Stay flexible and positive
- ~ Go places! Meet people! (NatCon, District Convention, Area Workshops, etc.)
- ~ Collaborate with other Sisters and Brothers
- ~ Ask ALL the questions
- ~ Take care of yourself
- ~ Enjoy your time as an active! It will go by faster than you think

Hannah Wilson - TBΣ Gamma Tau,
SWD Vice President for Membership



It's the People

There are a lot of things in life that I've always expected to end. High school? Definitely. Marching band? Sure. Tau Beta Sigma? I guess I never thought about how my time in this organization would also someday come to an end! I chuckled to myself the first time that I truly realized that this isn't a rollercoaster that I can ride forever. I'm a senior this year at the University of Oklahoma, and I will soon be an alumnus of the Delta Chapter. There is so much that I am going to miss about TBS – the Hannah talks, the snaps after a hard week, and the singing, to name a few. But what makes me chuckle even more when I think about this chapter in my life (ha) coming to an end is that my experience in Tau Beta Sigma never truly has to end. In Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi, I have met my people. I have been extremely lucky in my time in TBS to have been surrounded with people that uplift me and love on me, and that won't end after my Senior Goodbye.

Tau Beta Sigma has taught me more than any other organization on campus, that good people are out there. There are people willing to help you, care for you, and support you through your life, and they will be willing to stick around. Admittedly, it may have taken graduating to realize what a gift that I have found in Tau Beta Sigma, but I haven't lost anything in that time – I will have these people forever.

A lot of people ask, "Why did you join TBS?", and I think a better question is, "Why did you stay in TBS?" Sure, the service that I joined for is excellent, the music is soothing, and the projects are exciting, but the joy in TBS are those that experience it with you year after year.

Some things in college, like the amount of times you play your fight song on your home field (Boomer Sooner Baby!!!), are finite and heartbreaking when they finally end. But I feel comforted that in Tau Beta Sigma that heartbreak isn't paralleled. This is a journey that I know can never end.

Emily Reel - TBS Delta



“The Bond Beyond the Stars”

to the sisTers and brothers i've met
Along the way, that have helped me grow
it was yoU that helped this winter blossom
Bloom into a gorgeous summer
rosE that reaches toward the sun and knows that
falling amongst the sTars is a safe place to fall
and be caught in the beAutiful
Space of this most sacred bond,
creating music and servIng collegiate bands our
common Goal
May we always hold dear the love we share
And I will hold on tight to the memories

honk

This new town of mine is rather windy and swell
The SWOSU band plays with vim, I can tell
I've attended formals and fundraisers too
Matching the Pride's colors, the ol' white and blue

Standing firmly on the hilltop
I can tell that these Brothers are the cream of the crop
Their events I attended were never a bore
And I couldn't help but notice their amazing rapport

As my time for leaving grows nearer and nearer
I hope my message to them gets clearer and clearer
I'm not just some object for beating and riding
I was here to inspire you all, to be ever striving

honk

Southwest District Spirit Drum
KKΨ Epsilon Epsilon





The Delta Chapter of TBS

at the

University of Oklahoma

would like to recognize our senior class
graduating/going alumni in May:

Holly Ahaus
Sterling Allen
Rachel Drake
Chase Galbraith
Kaleigh Guess
Hannah Harris
Connor Hopper
Kayla McCullough
Meagan Millier
Juliana Mitchell
Nadia Moore
Erica Nadolski
Brenna O'Hara
Ethan Price
Emily Reel
Madison Sampson
Sienna Severns
Taylor Vanderburg
Shawn Wier

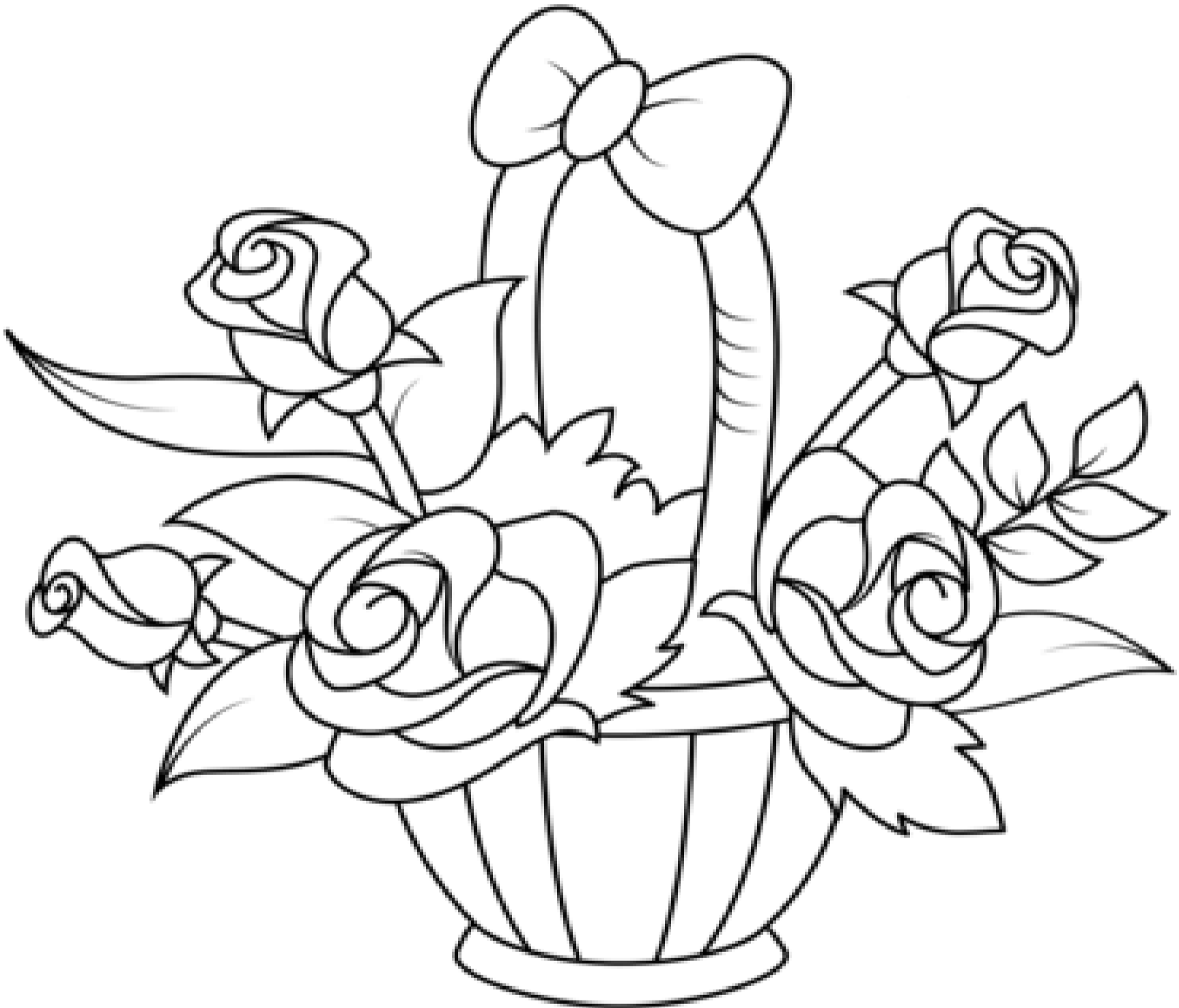
A Coloring Page on the following page

Lindsey Krueger -
TBΣ Delta Upsilon



Fall and Spring
Class 2019-2020 of
Delta Upsilon of TBΣ





Let us go on an adventure

Brothers here, brothers there, brothers everywhere

Did you know we also have sisters there and everywhere?

Did you know that Adventure Is Out There?

Okay now that I'm done trying to make a cheesy poem let's get to the nitty gritty.

Hi my name is Kelly, I am one of the oldest (by class) members of my chapter. I have gotten to experience so many great demonstrations of what it means to be in this fraternity. Over the years, I noticed that going to conventions actually makes a member who may be losing interest or sight of why they are in KKPsi, to get a little... Spicy. Basically I think attending more events held by KKPsi makes our interest levels go up. So it becomes more fun! My goal for the year was to get my chapter more involved in KKPsi as a whole and not just our chapter.

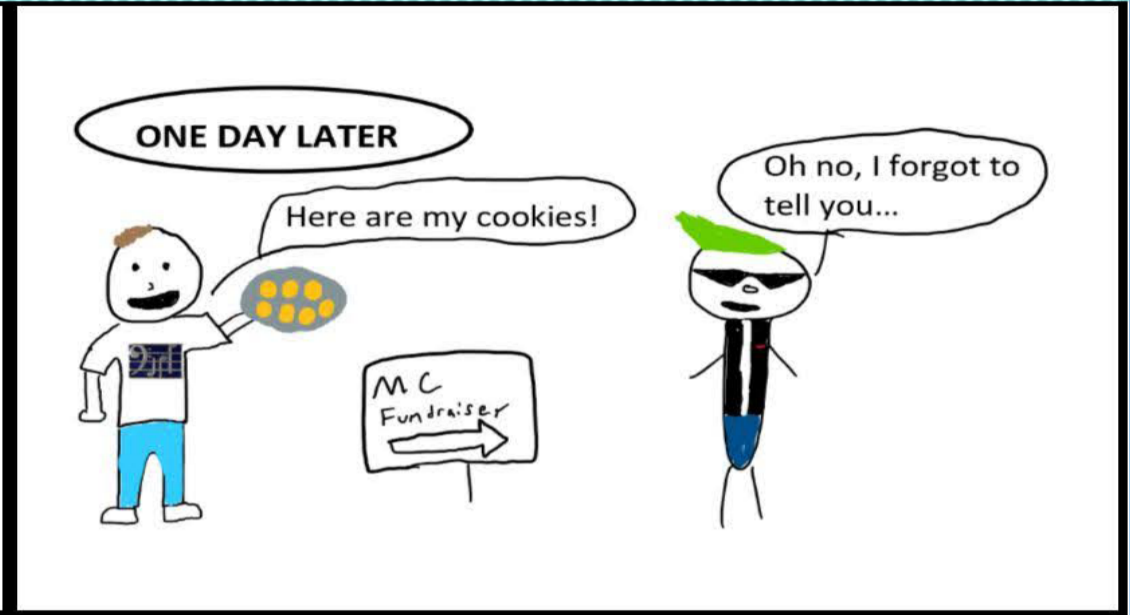
In the past year we have had two Alumni donations and I want to thank them (Jennifer and Jay) because without their donation I think we would have significantly less people going to this year's district convention. Now we have between 6 and 10 members going to SWDCon and this will be our highest number in attendance for district convention in a few years. We are excited to go on an adventure for the grueling 12 hour (with stops) drive. Gee I don't know how Gamma Iota has been doing it all this time, but I sure know they are striving for the highest.

Kelly Gage - KKPsi Gamma Theta,
New ALTO Public Relations Officer





JIMBO THE MC



Garret Gardenhire - KKΨ Lambda,
SWD President



Women In Music Careers

My name is Ginger Miller and I am a member of the Tau Beta Sigma-Delta Eta membership class of the Delta chapter at the University of Oklahoma. I am currently a first year music education major. While in my membership education classes, there was a lot of discussion surrounding Tau Beta Sigma's mission of empowering women in the music field. As a female (future) music educator, this topic really hits close to home. Growing up, I only had male band directors and honor band clinicians. I did not have a female band director until my senior year of high school. Somewhere around that time, after having a conversation with her about wanting to major in music, it struck me how much of a male-dominated field it is. Of course, like most fields of study, the role of women is growing very quickly as more and more of us explore career paths that were formerly male-dominated. However, there is still an idea in some people's minds that certain jobs or careers are really only for men to handle. While I have no experience of what it's like as a woman in other fields, I have certainly been treated differently than my male peers by some music educators because I am a young woman in music education. We are no longer prevented from going down the paths that we choose, but we are still treated differently than our male peers and that can sometimes feel downright degrading. Our generation; however, can be and will be the ones to change that. Tau Beta Sigma holds a platform that supports and puts a voice to the women in this field and by using this said platform to encourage women and girls to pursue a career in music, we can hopefully change the treatment of women in the music field, making it a safe environment to flourish in.

Ginger Miller - TBΣ Delta

Adventures with Tau!

With District Convention coming up, it was time for our _____(adjective) chapter to start planning! We had our _____(adjective) _____(noun), our _____(adjective) delegate, but most importantly, we had _____(name) the _____(noun)! We _____(verb) into our _____(noun) and _____(adverb) raced to New Mexico. Once we got there, we realized something. _____(exclamation)! We couldn't find Tau! We looked in the _____(noun) and under a _____(noun) and couldn't find him anywhere. Separate session was coming soon and we needed to find him _____(adverb)! Finally, _____(name) said "_____ (exclamation)! I just remembered! _____(name) left it in the _____(noun)!" The _____(adjective) chapter _____(verb) to the _____(noun) and found _____(name) the _____(noun)! After a _____(adjective) day, we never lost sight of Tau again!

Juliana Mitchell - TBΣ Delta



A Secretary-Treasurer's Story: Balancing School, Work, Fraternity, and Life

As I am moving toward my spring break, I wanted to take a moment and share how my experience has been surrounding balance. To be honest, sometimes, I didn't have it all together. Some days, I spent just laying in bed thirty minutes too late and would miss necessary prep time for my students. Some weeks, I never saw friends or family. Some days, I was on top of it with all 8 hours of sleep and all three meals. Some days were better; some days were worse. Through the first half of this semester, I've learned 5 lessons that I'd like to share with you all that has made balancing a little easier.

Number One: Prioritize the things that matter most to you. For me, I put school above a lot of things because I'm student teaching. But if I only focus on that, I never see my friends or my brothers. I also need to be able to afford my bills, so naturally work comes next. It's a fine line, but the fraternity comes after this. Being a chapter officer, a district officer, and the host chapter, I had to learn to balance these positions. I'm the kind of person who wants to put 100% into everything that I do, but I know my local chapter is my top priority. Then I've made it a point to give myself two days off from everything every week.

Number Two: It is okay to say no. I don't need to say more on this.

Number Three: It's okay to say I need time away from my phone/people/tasks in order to reset. One of the best things that I've done is learning to put my phone away when I'm overwhelmed.

Number Four: Prioritize yourself. We all hear how important self-care is and we all agree. I always just nodded and said oh yes, I love face masks. However, self-care can be as simple as just laying in bed a little earlier. One of my favorite types of self-care is to make my bed right after drying my sheets and grabbing a book to read for maybe 10 minutes.

And, Number Five: Create Memories. I started adding things that made me laugh, smile, or think differently in my planner. On Valentine's Day, I put a valentine that I had gotten from one of my students into my planner. It cheers me up every time I look at it. I've also been making an effort to take pictures of happy moments. I have pictures of food, my classroom, my friends, and my family. These albums have grown since I started to focus on them.

Balancing is hard. It is possible though.

I wish you all the very best second half of your semesters. I hope this helps, even in a small way.

AEA and Much Love

Ashley Nowikowski - KKΨ Gamma Iota,
SWD Secretary/Treasurer



How Long Has It Been

Being in Tau Beta Sigma has been the greatest gift that I have ever been given. It is something that has drastically changed my life for the better. I joined in the Spring of 2017, and ever since then it has felt like I finally had a family in my life. I have been given so much by the organization including an entire national of sisters and brothers.

Just yesterday I was looking about our chapter during a meeting and I realized that all the people who were members when I joined were now gone. After spending their time in Tau Beta Sigma, they had moved on past college. I started reminiscing about my past 3 years in the chapter and realized how many amazing memories I had. I also realized that I am the “oldest” person in the chapter. Meaning, on top of being the oldest age-wise, I am also one of the current members who has been in chapter the longest.

Being one of the “oldest” members has its perks and its drawbacks. It’s always a perk to be able to draw from past experiences. Going through so much with the chapter, I have experienced so many trials. Trials that brought our chapter together in so many ways and made us stronger. After being in the chapter for so long, it gets easier and easier to take a look at everything from above. To be able to see all the moving parts, how each member interacts and reacts to things, and how to deal with situations has become easier every single day.

The main drawback is just missing my sisters. Every year people move on and it is hard to say goodbye, but with every graduating class comes a new class of membership candidates. More sisters to welcome into our bond. I always love making new bonds with so many people around the nation. It is honestly one of my favorite parts about Tau Beta Sigma and as Dr. Seuss says, “Don’t cry because it’s over, smile because it happened.”

I have been in this organization for what feels like forever, but I know that my time in Tau Beta Sigma is just beginning and I can not wait for what the future holds.

Tyler Hern - TBΣ Beta Nu ,
SWD Secretary/Treasurer



My Spring with Alpha Tau

Hello everyone!

Andy the Armadillo here with updates on my time with the Alpha Tau chapter at the University of Texas at Austin.

The spring is a very exciting time here at Alpha Tau. I get to see the chapter's newest membership class, Enceladus, spend their first semester as actives! This chapter has made donations to the Butler School of Music in order to replace their furniture and are actively available to help clean or sort items at the school of music. The Alpha Tau chapter has also started their interest events for the newest membership candidate class! This is really fun because I get to see how the active members interact with other members of the band that are interested in joining Kappa Kappa Psi. By the end of the semester, the new membership candidate class will be announced at a banquet and we'll celebrate the progress and success of the chapter at a barge party!

Thanks for tuning in and remember to follow my Instagram: @swdandythearmadillo and my Facebook: @SWDAndyTheArmadillo in order to keep up with my time with Alpha Tau!

Andy the Armadillo



Adventure IS Out There.

I want to start this out by saying that I've never been the greatest at orchestrating my thoughts into words. That's why I submitted a word search last semester. I at least wanted to submit one thoughtful submission though, and that is what this post is going to be.

A year and a 1/2 ago, I was just starting my term as my chapter's president. I feel a little ashamed to say it, but it was at this point in time that I was finally getting involved with district activities. The 2 years prior to this point in time I had always seen district activities as something only for super involved members. I was scared or nervous to attend events because I felt as if I didn't meet the bar or criteria set by other outstanding members in the district. I had attended maybe one workshop a year and had always seen the work that district officers and other chapter officers were doing and felt a little inadequate by how amazing their projects were.

When I started my term as president, I wanted this all to change. I started getting in contact more with the district council. I got up-to-date on all of the forms that I previously had not known about. I was providing constant reminders and information from all of the district social media to my chapter. I even started bouncing around the idea of becoming a district officer. All of this, I realized, could have been easily achievable had I just taken those first steps. All of the information and opportunities were available to me since I joined. I just failed to act upon them.

Now, a little over halfway through my term as the SWD MAL, I have experiences that I wouldn't trade for the world. I've been able to meet and work with brothers from all over the nation and I truly believe I've made lifelong friendships with them. Not everyone may be ready to be a district officer, but if you're considering going to that workshop this next weekend, go to it! If you're considering attending another local chapters initiation, attend it! If you're tossing the idea back-and-forth about whether you should attend a district convention this year, DO IT! You only have a certain number of years as an active brother. Try and make the most of them. Adventure IS out there, you just gotta find it!

**Andy Cifuentes - KKΨ Epsilon Epsilon,
SWD Member-at-Large**



The Sections as Animal Crossing Characters

Flute - Goldie

You are kind and always on top of things! You are organized and way too pure for this world. You are always showing love to your section-mates. Nothing can get you down!



Clarinet - Isabelle

Isabelle is outgoing and always eager to help. You always find a way to be there for everyone and lend a helping hand to those who need it. Your encouragement does not go unnoticed!



Saxophones - K.K. Slider

K.K Slider is easy-going and mellow to talk to. You love to take requests for songs to play. Like K.K, you are a traveling musician, bouncing from section to section to chat. You are a big people pleaser and want to make everyone happy!



Horn - Bob

Bob is a chill cat and will always crack jokes with you. You have fun with your section during and after rehearsal. Like Bob, you love taking part in leisure activities. Just hanging with your section makes you happy!



Trumpet - Rosie

Rosie is friendly and always excited to talk to you! You get along with everyone and keep up the energy at rehearsal with your pep! Don't lose your good spirits.



Trombone - Gulliver

This goofy pelican can be found asleep on the beach. Once you wake him, he loves to tell stories of his amazing adventures. You are an outgoing person who is always willing to cheer someone up with your humor. You love making new friends and always put a smile on other's faces when they need it.



Baritone - Tom Nook
You are trustworthy. Tom Nook may always be asking the player for bells, but he is the most down to earth businessman out there! You are always there for everyone around you. Also, there may be speculations that you are a human in a suit.



Tuba - Apollo
Apollo is one of the coolest villagers. It takes some time to warm up and get to know Apollo, but once you do he is an amazing friend! You are approachable and can get competitive with your section.



Percussion - Blathers
Blathers will talk to you on and on for days about his specific interests! Blathers loves what he does and always gets things done around his museum. You are friendly and love engaging in your specific interests with others.



Front ensemble - Anicotti
You are always in a good mood and are easy to become friends with. You get over-excited to see your friends at rehearsal, and you love to try new things! You have a short attention span and always keep busy!



Guard - Reese
Reese is the sweetest Re-Tail worker there is! She is always there with Cyrus to assist you in refurbishing your furniture into something fresh! You love to cultivate new friendships and give small gifts of affection to your friends. You are good to go to for advice and are always willing to say a kind word!



Alayna Hendricks - TBΣ Delta

A Note On Grief

Grief is one of those things I don't think you can cure. There are remedies to soothe the pain, ways to extract the hurt, but it is never fully gone.

Since last year I have experienced a lot of loss. Most of it felt so unexpected, not that death is "expected". Even when someone has been sick for awhile, when they finally go it's still too soon.

My grandma passed away late January. She had been sick with pneumonia. When I last visited her, she was laughing, smiling. She said she was feeling better. There has not been a day since where I don't think about her and her kind soul. A friend of her's called me by her name; it took everything in me to smile through it. Maybe it's silly, but hearing her name is enough to bring me back to the moment I found out. I miss her greatly and I pray and hope she's up in Heaven with my grandpa and all those who have left before her.

To my brothers and sisters here in the southwest, I think we can all agree that we have so much going on all the time and that it can be difficult to catch a break. It certainly hasn't been an easy task for me. And so I ask you to be kind, be patient, and be there.

Grief, anxiety, and depression are complicated. There are good days, bad days, and very bad days. Days where the weight of it all is so overwhelming you call in sick, cancel plans, don't go to class. Days where the weight of it all is so overwhelming, but you go and do things anyways.

Be kind. Be patient. Be there.

Grief can make it difficult to do things and be around people. Be kind to them. Grief doesn't stop because you ask it to go away. Be patient. Grief is not handled alone. Be there for them.

And to all my brothers and sisters who are dealing with loss right now, you are not alone. You are never alone. I hope the sun shines bright for you and warms up your soul, that the next time you play your instrument it warms up your heart, and that you continue to adventure and continue to hope.

"For all of the things
You never got to say
And all of the memories
That will never be the same:
Here's what remains,
Here's what's true:
After all you lost,
Love will still find you"
-Morgan Harper Nichols

Keep striving Southwest.

Rachael Baca - KKY Gamma Iota,
SWD Vice President for Programs



Delta Chapter Fill-in-the-blank Questions

1. As I'm writing this on International Women's Day, I feel it's appropriate to start by saying that _____ founded Tau Beta Sigma while attending Texas Tech University.
2. Specifically to Delta, the founder of "Hannah Talks" is _____, a member of our Delta Epsilon membership class.
3. After chapters on Thursday, members of Delta like to gather at the Mont to share a plate of _____.
4. Delta's mascot, _____, is the Pride of Oklahoma's biggest fan on game days.
5. Our favorite thing to do after a full day of football on game days is _____ with other TBS chapters.
6. Delta's newest membership class, the _____, has 25 members.
7. During game days, it is Delta's job to hand out _____ to the Pride of Oklahoma so that they can perform to the best of their ability.
8. On Thursday, after snacks are placed in the middle of the room, Delta members are guaranteed to have _____ brought.
9. Delta members will split up in groups of 5 and talk about how their semester is going. It's especially nice during the intense parts of the semester. These are called _____.
10. The best service project to ever exist is _____!

- Answers
1. Wava Banes Turner
 2. Hannah Harris
 3. Cheese fries
 4. Tau the Turtle
 5. Sing
 6. Delta Etas
 7. Sandwiches
 8. Oreos or Caprisun
 9. Turtle Talks
 10. No wrong answer :)

Nadia Moore - TBΣ Delta





Remembering a
Simpler Time



Mason Thomas - ΚΚΨ
Lambda



Making the Most of Your Dollar

For many of us, one thing we have in common is wanting to get the most out of our paycheck. We budget our monthly income so we can cover recurring, planned expenses, and with what is left over, we decide how much to put toward savings, a large purchase, or perhaps toward that vacation you've been dreaming about taking. Responsible credit card use could be one way to help you maximize your paycheck so that when you spend money on necessary expenses, you are able to save for the future.

When I turned eighteen, I was terrified of getting a credit card. I needed to practice spending within a monthly budget before I could manage credit. I spent years simply using a debit card and putting aside money in a savings account when possible. It wasn't until my senior year of college, when I needed to purchase a new laptop, that I considered getting a credit card. It was time for me to start building a reputable credit history, and I had proven my ability to spend money within a monthly income. My first credit card was the "Discover Student Card." It gave me a lower credit limit, and I did not need a significant monthly income to qualify for the card, which was necessary because I was only working part-time.

I used this Student Card responsibly for years, and I established a good credit score which gave lenders faith in me to pay back loans for a car, house, and large purchases. The Discover Student Card had a cash-back bonus which meant I could earn 1-5% of my purchases back in cash or credit toward a future billing cycle. While this program was a good starting program, I wanted to take my spending power to the next level. In 2017, I applied for a second credit card, this time through American Airlines.

Once you've established a reputable credit score, you then have more options as to which credit card company you would like to have an account. Each company has different account levels and rewards programs offered. One common reward is 0% financing at retail stores. For example, if you need to purchase a new washer or dryer, or perhaps a new laptop, a Best Buy credit card could be offering a promotion on 0% financing for an extended period of time. This means you'd be able to pay off that purchase without accruing interest for the specified amount of time. However, you must be careful because if you are not able to pay off the full amount, you might be responsible for a compounded interest rate that has been building since the initial purchase. If paid off in time, credit cards through retail stores could be helpful for large, one-time purchases.

Cash back reward programs are also a common bonus for many credit cards. This means that for every dollar you spend, you will earn a specified percent of that money back. These programs may offer a greater cash-back percentage dependent upon what times you purchase or where. This cash-back could then be saved and used toward a fun, future expense or could help you make a payment on a monthly bill in a pinch. This cash-back could then be saved and used toward a fun, future expense or could help you make a payment on a monthly bill in a pinch. Many credit cards offer this program including Discover, American Express, Chase, Capitol One, Visa, and Master Card.

Other reward programs help you mitigate travel costs, such as earning miles for flights or hotel points. I have the American Airlines credit card, and for every dollar I spend, I earn miles. These miles can then be traded for airline tickets. Delta, Southwest, United, and other airlines also have credit cards where you can earn miles through their specific airline. Discover, Capitol One, American Express, and others also have reward programs where you can earn miles. It's important to do your research to see what airline you fly most often, or which ones have the best reward program for you.

Another way to earn points toward travel is through hotel credit cards or simply hotel membership programs. I am a member of the International Hotel Group (IHG), and this is not a credit card program. This simply means that anytime I stay at an IHG hotel, including Holiday Inn, Staybridge, and Candlewood Suites, I earn points. Of course, if you have their credit card, you earn more points and faster, but I have not taken that step. However, hotel reward programs or credit cards are great ways to accrue points that can be traded in for free nights. Marriott, Hilton, Hyatt, and Best Western are just some of the many hotel groups that offer these programs.

Everyone's credit score and history are different, which is why it is vital for you to do your own research to see what your best options are when it comes to rewards programs. I am, by no means, an expert in finances, and it's important to figure out what is best for you. However, it can be incredibly rewarding to reap the rewards from necessary expenses. This past month, I had the opportunity to go to France with my mother. I traded in airlines miles I had been saving for a free, round-trip flight to France. My mother, who travels for work, had saved enough IHG points with her IHG credit card to trade in her points and cover our lodging costs. She also used her airline miles to pay for her flight. This means that for both of us, our transportation and lodging costs were covered through credit card rewards programs. It took us two years to save enough points, but it was possible and worth it!

Everyone's credit score and history are different, which is why it is vital for you to do your own research to see what your best options are when it comes to rewards programs. I am, by no means, an expert in finances, and it's important to figure out what is best for you. However, it can be incredibly rewarding to reap the rewards from necessary expenses. This past month, I had the opportunity to go to France with my mother. I traded in airlines miles I had been saving for a free, round-trip flight to France. My mother, who travels for work, had saved enough IHG points with her IHG credit card to trade in her points and cover our lodging costs. She also used her airline miles to pay for her flight. This means that for both of us, our transportation and lodging costs were covered through credit card rewards programs. It took us two years to save enough points, but it was possible and worth it!

Ashlyn Simmons - TBΣ Psi



TBS - DELTA EDITION

L E A D E R S H I P D E L T A
E C I V R E S J S R S H R K R
M F X C S L T R D I S O H U G
U G T H V T N Q N D S E F D S
S D N A B R E T A E R G R O F
I N O P S U V R B O S N I S G
C A M T N T E O P F T E E B N
I M E E A E H E E O R W N O I
A R H R P H S O P K E A D X G
N O T X S T U X I L C L S T N
S N P E S U R L K A N T H I I
H S I S T A U S Z H O O I W S
I L L A B T O O F O C T P L J
P O W O M E N I N M U S I C P
S K L A T H A N N A H H Y Z H

CHAPTER
FOOTBALL
HANNAHTALKS
MUSICIANSHIP
PEPBANDS
RUSHEVENTS
SISTAUS
THEMONT

CONCERTS
FORGREATERBANDS
KUDOSBOX
NEWALTO
PRIDEOFOKLAHOMA
SERVICE
SNAPS
WOMENINMUSIC

DELTA
FRIENDSHIP
LEADERSHIP
NORMAN
ROSE
SINGING
TAUTHETURTLE

Lily Raye - TBΣ Delta



Adventure is Our Future: My Talk with a Delta Chapter MC

While my chapter is lucky enough to have a large pool of people to recruit membership candidates, I do feel like some great people end up falling through the cracks until later on in activehood (yes, I'm coining the term activehood). Delta currently has 27 membership candidates and only 4 exec positions for the MC class. Also, until this year, new members were not permitted to run for any exec office so they had to wait until their junior year or above until they serve the chapter in a position with a title. I had a wonderful talk with an MC who was so willing and ready to serve for Kappa Kappa Psi, yet he was not one of these 4 position holding MCs. Chris Weir is a membership candidate from Stigler, Oklahoma. He is a percussionist and also serves in another campus organization called Camp Kesem. Camp Kesem helps out the children of parents who are diagnosed with cancer. In high school, he held many positions in leadership such as drumline captain, speech and debate captain, mock trial captain, and student council president. When I first talked to him, he was interested in the district and how other chapters interact with each other. Chris has his own personal mission to get our local chapter to interact with other organizations on campus. He believes we should have our name more known throughout the University of Oklahoma so that we can fundraise from people outside the school of music and find more community outreach opportunities. In fact, Chris is attempting to set up for Kappa Kappa Psi to give music lessons to the kids they help in Camp Kesem. In order to do this, Chris really hopes to be Vice President of Service or Member at Large for the delta chapter one day. The thing he really wants to do as an active is create positive and uplifting change so that our chapter might be more motivated, involved, and well known for doing great service. I know it may sound like I'm talking about another eager MC who wants to serve the bands and improve the chapter, but I've never seen someone with such determination and specific ideas this early on in the membership candidate process. He immediately grasped the purposes and ideals of Kappa Kappa Psi and started thinking of ways he could contribute. This is a leader that others may not take notice of just yet because he does not hold a position and may seem to be just part of the other 22 membership candidates just going through process as expected. In fact, I don't know if he realizes his own potential. When I asked him if I could write about him for this article he was confused as to why I chose him. Little does he know, I consider him to be someone that the delta chapter needs to utilize, cultivate, and reward as I believe he will be a vital part to our future success in upcoming years.

I hope this inspires other chapters to take a close look at their candidates and nurture the future leaders of the organization early on.

AEA,

Hannah Cheeseman - KKΨ Delta,
SWD Vice President for Membership



The Adventures of Beta!

A traveling turtle

This past semester I joined the ranks of Alpha Omicron at Sam Houston State University. I watched as they finished off the year strong and prepped for National Convention in Stillwater, Oklahoma. Our morning started early as I traveled with President Ame and Vice President Hannah. We got badged up and visited the rose garden dedicated to our dear Wava. I even got a chance to represent all of their hard work at the poster session for the Top Chapter Award! I have seen this chapter grow and change with each passing day. Here are some of my favorite pics of me and my crew, including their new mascot Popcorn the Chicken. I look forward to more fun adventures with this chapter as they head off to help host in Albuquerque, New Mexico with the Gamma Iota chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi.





“Don’t Cry Because it’s Over, Smile Because it Happened”

This semester is my last semester as an active sister and I think it is time to fully reflect on my time as an active sister. Like any journey in life, there has been a lot of ups and downs. One thing that I know for sure, is that I made a right choice when I decided to cross into Tau Beta Sigma. What a lot of people do not know is that I almost completely dropped from the membership education process literally right before my third degree. I woke up the morning of my third degree and I cried because I wasn't sure if I wanted this or not. I even showed up thirty minutes late for the call time for membership candidates because I needed more time to make the decision. I was scared because I have been in a million different organizations, but none that had this type of commitment. But now I am here and able to write this article not only as an active sister, but as an outgoing district president. I am so thankful for all of the opportunities that have come my way. I have been able to have two incredible bigs, eight amazing littles, and too many to count of grand littles, great-grand littles, and so on. (Yes, I know that this makes me sound super old. That's why it is my time to leave.) I have served on chapter leadership for three terms. I have served as district secretary/treasurer and president. I have served as the district delegate and a committee chair for national convention. I have also earned the Legacy Scholarship for Tau Beta Sigma. All of these accomplishments and milestones never would have happened without the support of so many sisters and brothers. I have had so many meaningful and worthwhile conversations with so many sisters. Thank you to the people so far that have taken the time to know me for who I am and are always pushing me to be the better person. Some of my best memories are my times spent at Kathy's house for district events, the many road trips with sisters, nights spent in the chapter room just hanging out, and so on. These memories have shaped my college experience and I wouldn't trade them for the world.

Before I go, I must leave at least four pieces of advice.

- 1) Please talk to all sisters, ESPECIALLY the people in leadership. They are normal people, but also your sister at the end of the day. Don't miss out on your chance to know an awesome person before they leave.
- 2) Leave personal issues at the chapter door. You have to know the difference between personal and business matters. Especially if it is dealing with chapter operations.
- 3) Tau Beta Sigma is more than your chapter. Go visit other chapters, go to district events, go to national events.
- 4) Just because it is the way your chapter has "always" done it, does not mean that it has to stay thatway. It is okay to break the cycle, especially if it is not helping your chapter grow.

With fortitude, courage, and the spiciness of the Southwest, I am excited to see what happens in the next part of my journey in life and in Tau Beta Sigma. I know that no matter what happens I have an amazing support system of sisters and brothers to lean on.

Ciara Gibbs - TBΣ Eta Pi,
SWD President



Spring Pictures
(Featuring My Litte)

Ruben Anfoso - KKΨ
Gamma Zeta





Big Pops Energy with the ΓE class MC's

TK Garrett - KKΨ Gamma Theta



Arm in Arm

Standing not hand and hand, but arm and arm had never been more natural to me. During this past National Convention as Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma sang to end the closing banquet, many of the chapters split either into the two big concentric circles around the room or their own two concentric circles around their respective tables.

However, my table did something different. We stood up and, without even thinking, put our arms around each other and took turns singing our songs. I had gone to school with these people for years now, and the only weird aspect of this experience was how we were the only table with a single circle for both chapters.

More often than not, I take for granted the relationships I have at Delta. But I guess it can be easy to do that. Delta Kappa Kappa Psi and Delta Tau Beta Sigma here at the University of Oklahoma get along so well, and while I'm being honest, I tend to forget who joined which organization.

Though, conversing with other chapters at National or District Convention, snaps me into a different reality, one where chapter relations fall aside in favor of tensioned smiles and hardened hearts. Once or twice I have even been asked how Delta does it. How do we get along? How can [x] chapters be better partners? What can we do to have that?

Answering this question always puts me in a tough position. On the one hand, describing how to work together is straightforward, like "just talk" and "have respect for each other." On the other hand, I don't know the history of other chapters or the systematic positions they fall into within their own bands.

So, consider this article as a more of a stimulus for reimagining rather than a step-by-step guide to curing joint relations. Forming a relationship doesn't happen overnight, but it can begin with one person, so don't be intimidated.

What we have at Delta is built upon a mutual respect for the equality of our two organizations. Our chapters do almost everything together whether that be a service project or pep band. And when we do serve separately, we try to complement our workloads. For instance, at football games Tau Beta Sigma checks our luggage and Kappa Kappa Psi loads it under the bus.

We even do a few social events with each other like joint Christmas parties, pool parties, or volleyball games. But our most special tradition has to be our Joint Relations Week where we write each other cards and surprise each other with snacks at chapter as a reminder that we each respect and appreciate what the other does for our bands.

Yes, we do still have our own traditions. We do stuff on our own every now and then. We even share side eyes and petty smirks like teenage siblings when the rough points in the semester begin to drain our sanity. The Delta chapters are by no means perfect, but when it comes down to it, we stand arm and arm in one circle because we know how much we rely on each other. We have their backs and they have ours, and even on our worst days there's still time for a few hugs, and I know there's something special about that.

Delta may be two chapters from two separate organizations, but we are one voice, one stronghold, from one university.

Connor Hopper - TBΣ Delta



New People, New Adventures

The past year for the Epsilon Beta Chapter at the University of Central Arkansas has put us through a lot of changes. The biggest change, pun intended, was an explosive growth in our membership. This growth has brought in more people to not only expand our service for the bands that we were already doing but has also brought in so many more people with different ideas. These new ways of thinking have brought about some changes in how we do things, expediting processes already in place, and bringing in new ideas of how to help serve the bands to a greater extent.

Our current MCs for the Spring 2020 semester have asked us so many questions about the things that we do for the bands and have seen how we conduct things from the outside looking in and have given us a lot of feedback. Whether it is seeing how we are doing something, like fixing stands, and trying to improve the process by offering different suggestions on how we go about it. It is refreshing to have a new perspective on services we do and keep us out of the rut of “we do this this way because it is what we always have done”. We are so grateful for their ideas and confidence to present their ideas to the chapter. They also just have so much energy and ideas towards Kappa Kappa Psi that they have come up to various officers and told them their ideas for other service projects, recruitment events, fundraisers and brotherhood events.

This year has also been an adventure for our brothers in general though, because of our rapid growth there needed to be a lot of things looked into that worked fine for a seven person chapter that gets hindered when you have almost a twenty person chapter. We have to be more flexible with our time because of so many people’s different schedules but we also want to offer as many opportunities to serve throughout the year as we can. For example, this semester we started doing basketball adopt-a-bands. By doing this it has taken us to new high schools that don’t have football teams that we have never had the chance to reach out to through our football adopt-a-bands that we do every fall semester. We were a little tentative about doing something new and never done before in our chapter but overall it was a great experience for both us and the high schoolers. There have been a lot of different ideas for various other service projects that we are planning on implementing later throughout the year and while these would be something new for the chapter, we know it will be a new adventure that we will go through and pass tips and tricks of how to do it better every year down through the chapter.

Overall there’s been a lot of changes in the Epsilon Beta chapter and it has thoroughly been an adventure getting to where we are now. We are looking forward to what the next years of serving will bring us in the future.

Kathryn Villarreal - $\text{KK}\Psi$ Epsilon Beta



Lamar University
Mardi Gras Experience
2020

Faith Dickey - TBΣ
Alpha Upsilon



Create Your Own Adventure

Over the past four years of membership in Tau Beta Sigma, I have had so many opportunities to understand these organizations along my many adventures. My adventures began after my initiation on March 16th, 2017. My first district event was attending the Southwest District Convention the weekend following my initiation. Convention was in Stillwater, Oklahoma that year. I met numerous alumni during this trip and had the opportunity to become closer with my Psisters (sisters of the Psi chapter). During this trip, I also became close with Hannah Wells, who was serving the district as VPSP during this time. I admired her dedication to the organization but never thought that I would ever be capable of something like that. That summer after my initiation, I went to National Convention in Orlando, FL. This was when I realized the magnitude of Tau Beta Sigma and how impactful of an organization it was. I served on the jurisdiction committee and learned a bit more about our constitution. I realized at this convention that Tau Beta Sigma was so much more than just my chapter. I'm thankful that I had that experience because it would be so important to me later. I served as chapter historian during my first year of membership and attended Arkansas Area in Russellville and Southwest District Convention in Brownwood, TX.

This convention was a turning point for my involvement in this organization. After the convention, I ran for local chapter office and didn't get elected to any office. It was a bit upsetting but I believed that it was what was best for our chapter. During the fall semester, I began to feel really distant from my sisters, so distant that at one point, I wrote a letter to request inactive status. Something had changed, my motivation and passion was gone. Then, a series of events occurred that made me change my mind and attitude rather quickly. Someone approached me and wanted to know why he should accept his blind bid to Kappa Kappa Psi. His curiosity made me think back to why I joined Tau Beta Sigma. It began to spark that passion and motivation for this organization that I had appeared to have lost. The second event in this series happened just after the fall semester ended. I attended the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago, Illinois and met a few members of National Leadership for Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi. Between meeting them and meeting other brothers and sisters of the organizations, I knew that I was meant to do more and I was ready to fight myself to feel welcome in the sisterhood again.

My adventure back into the sisterhood began with me asking my chapter for a letter of recommendation to run for district office. I still have no clue why I decided that this was the way that I was going to gain my passion and motivation back, but it was. I decided to run for District Vice President for Special Projects because it was a position that encompassed all the reasons that I joined Tau Beta Sigma. My goal was to foster sisterhood through the service that we provide. I attended Convention that year in Weatherford, Oklahoma. I left that convention as the SWD VPSP, something that I am still incredibly thankful for today. So far in the past year, I have been able to attend the National Leadership Conference, a National Convention in Stillwater, the Kappa Kappa Psi centennial celebration and Louisiana/East Texas Area Workshop. I look forward to the adventures of future workshops and to our convention this year. I mention all of this to point out that I have met hundreds of brothers and sisters in our district and in the nation.

These members are where my passion and motivation come from on a daily basis. I started working for this organization for those beyond me. I encourage you to always work hard “For Greater Bands” and never stop “Striving for the Highest.” These organizations are very special to me and something that I have realized, through my adventures, really are life-long. I know that “when I wander far from home, I’ll have courage that I’m not alone.” I have learned that not every member has the same adventures in these organizations, so sometimes, you have to create your own adventure.

Wendy Stewart - TBΣ Psi,
SWD Vice President of Special Projects

