

VOLUNTEERS

Housing Corporation Officers

President - **Sara Smith**
Vice President - **June Wilson**
Secretary - **Michelle Rowley**
Treasurer - **Jessica Jackson**

Chapter Officers

President - **Erika Schafer**
VP Chapter Relations & Standards -
Jordyn Walock
VP Finance - **Emma Olander**
VP Risk Management - **Elizabeth Franks**
VP Recruitment -
Morgan Garrett
VP New Member Education -
Lauren Gasiorowski
VP Ritual and Fraternity
Appreciation - **Regan Hueske**
VP Public Relations & Marketing -
Megan Eberhart
VP Membership Programming -
Samantha Cordell
VP Intellectual Development -
Maddie Munsey
VP Philanthropy - **Bradie Peeples**
Panhellenic Delegate - **Sara Partin**
VP Recruitment Information -
Lauren Fischer

CHAPTER HISTORY

The Gamma Zeta Chapter of Alpha Chi Omega was chartered at Kansas State University on March 22, 1947. Our chapter began with 17 outstanding women and has grown to almost 130 today. The original 17 members consisted of 14 charter members and 3 "pledges."

These members founded AXΩ ΓΖ at our first location of 615 Fairchild Terrace. We later moved to our beautiful new home here at 1835 Todd Road, and continued to build our chapter. In 1987, we added a new section to the house which raised the maximum occupancy by almost 30. Since then, renovations have been made including the most recent renovations done to our parking lot, ladies' rooms and formal room. Over this summer, our closets will be redone. Our house now holds 66 women each year along with our fabulous house mother, June Wilson, and has truly become home for many members of our chapter over the years.

Alpha Chi Omega News

Gamma Zeta Chapter | Kansas State

REAL. STRONG. WOMEN.

MANHATTAN, KANSAS

alphachiomegaksu.com

Summer 2019

A MOTHER-DAUGHTER ALPHA CHI LEGACY

Jennifer (JJ) VenJohn graduated from Kansas State University and the Gamma Zeta chapter of Alpha Chi Omega in 1992. Nearly 25 years later, her daughter, Shelby, did the same. Shelby graduated in May 2019, a very recent alumna of the chapter. She and her mom now hold the same alumna status and share the unique experience of having pledged at the same sorority.

JJ emphasizes the difficulty in selecting a sorority when she rushed her sophomore year saying "tears were definitely shed," but ultimately she wholeheartedly believes Alpha Chi was the right choice. Her daughter experienced a similar turmoil, but when she made the decision to join Gamma Zeta there was a collective excitement by both mother and daughter.

"I was very, very happy," JJ says. "I kept telling her, 'you'll get the right one, I promise, it'll happen'. It thrilled me to death. I knew that she would be perfect there."

Little did Shelby know, that's what her mother anticipated all along. Shelby says her mother did not push her towards Alpha Chi at all, and it was the one place Shelby did not plan to end up. But after visiting all the houses, narrowing down the options and finding Alpha Chi in the remaining two, Shelby's feelings towards the house had definitely changed.

"She told me she knew the whole time, but she wanted me to choose it and didn't



away.

Shelby fully submerged herself in the sorority serving in multiple positions freshman to senior year. She served as the new member educator, social chair, intramural chair and social media chair throughout her time at Alpha Chi. Because of those experiences, Shelby learned to develop her leadership skills and how to connect with people from all different types of backgrounds.

"It was eye-opening to see everyone from different backgrounds and that we can all be friends. It really brought us together in a way nothing else on campus really does," Shelby says.

Perhaps the most common thread between their experiences were the sisters. Whether they were members in 1991 or 2015, they made all the difference when the VenJohn girls made their decisions to become part of Alpha Chi.

want me to choose it because of her," Shelby says. "I did not think I'd be an Alpha Chi, but it turns out it was definitely the place to be for me."

The mother-daughter duo certainly took some similar life lessons and benefits from their time there, including the sisterhood, great connections and lasting friendships. But where JJ was convinced to rush by other friends while she was dating a fraternity member, Shelby had planned all along to find a sorority and looked to join right

ACTIVE CHAPTER

What are active sisters up to this summer?

Summer is the perfect opportunity for college students to kick back and relax after all the stress and rigor of a semester at K-State is over. The sun is out, there are many holidays to celebrate and endless opportunities to spend time with family and friends – and cooking out on the grill.

We asked our Gamma Zeta sisters how they were planning on spending their summer vacations. Many are taking on summer jobs, catching up on much-needed sleep, or taking the opportunity to spend time with family and friends.

Some other sisters, however, have more

exotic plans. Some of our sisters are spending their summers studying abroad as they dedicate themselves to service projects, fellowships, and experiencing vibrant new cultures and surroundings!

Some more scholarly-minded sisters are staying within the realm of academia for the summer. They're spending their summer days attending educational events like seminars and camps, all for the love of learning. One sister is even ushering in a new crop of KSU students as an orientation leader.

For our recent graduates, now is the time to begin resume-building in even more

monumental ways! Put those degrees you worked so hard to earn to good use. Make your indelible mark on the world and blaze the path to your dream career!

So here's to summer, and embracing all that summer brings, from gaining real-world experience to creating your own special memories over the next 7 weeks.

See what your Gamma Zeta sisters have planned this summer in the table below.

Please share your summer pictures and memories with your sisters by emailing us at alumninews@affinityconnection.com!

Summer Internships and Study Abroad!

Name	Type	Company	Location	What they're most excited about!
Megan Eberhart	Internship	Sprint	Overland Park, KS	I'm excited to learn more about the Human Resource industry and get experience in my future career path.
Abby Denshaw	Job	New Student Services. I work for K-State and am an orientation and enrollment intern as well as an orientation leader.	MHK	Getting to welcome new students to KSU!
Jenna Henderson	Job	Summer RA/Vet School	MHK	Staying in Manhattan.
Caroline Kimberlain	Internship	John Deere	Iowa	Getting real experience that will help me decide on a career path.
Bailey Short	Study Abroad		Italy	Getting to explore a new country and travel across Europe!
Ava Mikesell	Shadow Abroad	Atlantis Fellowship	Lisbon, Portugal	I can't wait to see how Portugal's universal healthcare differs from the United States. Also, I am very excited that I will get to shadow doctors every day, which includes watching surgery and much more.
Carole Brown & Sarah Devincent	Job	Spartina 449	Hilton Head Island, South Carolina	I'm doing the internship with Sarah DeVincent and it is a fashion internship.
Caylynn Hartman	Job	Camp War Eagle	Rogers, Arkansas	Spending the summer getting to meet and connect with many different children and making new friends.
Cami Brown	Internship	BNSF Railway	Spokane, WA	I am looking forward to learning the applications of Industrial Engineering in the railroad and hope to work for BNSF after I graduate!
Abby Kerber	Internship	Honeywell National Security Campus	KCMO	New experiences and learning new things.
Logan Glazier	Dance Incentives	I am apart of a dance company that puts on a show at the end of one of the events.	North Carolina June & Dallas, TX	Seeing all of my friends from around the country I don't get to see often and learning from amazing teachers/mentors.
Erika Shafer	Internship	Trails end camp	Pennsylvania	To meet all the new people and to not have access to a phone for 7 weeks.
Sydnee Pachek	Service Project	Boys & Girls Club	Peru	To get to meet new people, help others and explore new areas.
Holly Frakes	Internship	An interior design company	Topeka, KS	To gain field experience in my major.
Sarah Weiland	Study Abroad		Pau, France	Learning more French and going to France.
Bradie	Study Abroad	Living in the Philippines for an International Cultural Exchange	Philippines	I'm most excited to be immersed in another culture that is vastly different than my own. I'm also super excited to learn a little bit of the language and make friendships!
Sara Partin	Internship	I'm working on campus through the Chapman Center for Rural Studies as a book designer/editor.	MHK	It's this semester but they love my work and they are keeping me on to continue work next year! Gaining more experience in my desired field of work and learning more about my job!
Maria Danielle	Internship	Advisors Excel - Topeka, KS	Topeka, KS	Paid full time and paid housing! Also this company has multiple events about empowering their women in a male dominant field!
Kali Poenskie	Service Project	Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminars	MHK	Kansas State University, May 30 - June 2. Watching the ambassadors' leadership abilities grow and bonding with the staff.
Hannah Stecklein	Internship	CHS	Mcpherson	Real world experience.
Makenna Eilert	Job	Hope Ranch Therapeutic Riding Center	MHK	Getting to connect and help my therapy student grow throughout the summer.
Lana Herman	Undergraduate Research	The College of Veterinary Medicine	Kansas State University	I get to work in a hands-on cancer research lab, and I am really excited to be working with my supervisor who has developed some really cool biotechnology-specific to anti-cancer drug research
Payton Fenwick	Internship	I'm working at fidelity bank as an administrative assistant and I'm working at my family pizza restaurant.		I'm really excited to get some real-world office experience. Even though I'm not doing super challenging work at Fidelity, it'll be nice to get my feet wet in a corporate office.

EVENTS

Recruitment Week
August 19-23



Bid Day
August 23



Formal Chapter Scholarship Dinner & New Members Ceremony
August 27



Todd Trio Philanthropy Event

Initiation
October 18

Semi-Formal
November 1

September 15



HOMECOMING



October 20-26



Inside:

- **Alpha Chi Legacy**
- **Summer Plans**
- **Upcoming Events!**

STAY CONNECTED

“Understand that friends come and go, but with a precious few, you should hold on. Work hard to bridge the gaps in geography and lifestyle, because the older you get, the more you need the people who knew you when you were young.”

- Mary Smich, “Wear Sunscreen.”

Stay connected with your Alpha Chi Omega sisters. Because the older you get, the more you need the people who knew you when you were young. Let us know what’s going on in your life!

Seriously, What’s new with you these days? What are your favorite memories from your Gamma Zeta glory days? How would your

life be different today if you had never joined Gamma Zeta? What makes you proud to be a Gamma Zeta sister? We want to hear from YOU, sister.

Visit our website at alphachiomegaksu.com and let us know your thoughts.

