

Zeta Tau Alpha

Sigma Awarded Crown Chapter!

From the Convention 2024 introduction of Crown Chapter Awardees: "Zeta Tau Alpha established the Crown Chapter Awards in 1983 as a way to recognize chapters that maintained high standards of excellence. Crown Chapter is not a competition. We don't have Crown Chapter "winners." We have Crown Chapter recipients. Chapters receive this award for having the determination to achieve excellence and for working together to maintain those high standards. In working together, sisters share a common purpose – and common purpose builds sisterhood."

It was just announced that Sigma Chapter received Crown Chapter recognition for the 2024 – 2025 academic year. Sigma Chapter has attained Crown Chapter status 32 times since the inception in school year 1983 – 1984. Congratulations to our collegiate sisters and keep up the momentum!



WHAT HAS THE HOUSE CORPORATION BEEN UP TO?

For those of you who weren't at the Sigma of ZTA House Corporation annual meeting at STAG in May, we missed you, and hope you will plan to join us next year on May 17, 2026. The meeting is short, the information good, the fellowship and cross-generational sisterhood great! And dinner was excellent!

For the fiscal year that began June 1, 2024 and ended May 31, 2025, the House Corporation paid out \$121,000.

This was comprised of taxes, insurance, security, lawn maintenance and other miscellaneous items – with repairs and maintenance making up more than \$63,000 of the total.

The House Corporation made the decision to re-start the window replacement project, delayed because of COVID and smaller membership than normal, for summer 2025. This was necessary due to the deteriorating condition of the windows and siding on the northwest side of the house. So, 11 windows and all the siding on the house around those windows is new. New plantation shutters on the first floor for the new windows, and blinds for the new bedroom windows were part of the overall project along with patching, painting, etc.

The south sleeping porch was turned into a "Quad" room, connecting to room 13 which is now a dressing room with added closet space and dressers. The members have been requesting a 4-person room for some time, so we're pleased to be able to provide one now.

The crumbling north steps were addressed, as was the constant problem of front porch repairs. We won't be able to kick the can down the road on the front porch much longer without a permanent, expensive solution.

The informal is the most popular spot in the house for our members, so it gets the most wear and tear. It got new area rugs this summer. Notice the new indoor/outdoor mat at the front door that was customized with ZTA on it adding a classy welcome to visitors and residents alike.

All the usual, and some unexpected but necessary, summer maintenance items were completed. The House Corporation has a long list of items to be considered in the near future in order to keep our home away from home comfortable, updated, and competitive. Please see information on how to make a non-taxable donation in this newsletter. Big or small, donations are appreciated from all!

Most of all, we'd like to see you, so make plans now to come home to ZTA, Saturday, May 16, 2026.



House Corporation Officers

President

Anita Miller Hempy '69

Vice-President

Danielle Dingey Costanza '88

Treasurer

Pat Wooster-Jackson '68

Recording Secretary

Heather Cooper Fischer '88

Corresponding Secretary

Shauna Fuller Bartel '94

House Manager

Pat Wooster-Jackson '68
Carrie Reynolds Rauenzahn '96

Member-At-Large

Jeannine Bailey '87
Olivia Beins '13
Stephanie Woltkamp
Blaylock '13
Rodna Grimm Helvick '69
Becky Holloway Johns '88

Sigma Chapter Scholarship Highlights

Sigma Chapter is proud to recognize four outstanding members who have been awarded scholarships for the 2025–2026 academic year. These Zetas have shown exceptional leadership, academic success, and commitment to our sisterhood.

Carly Youngblood – Sigma House Corporation Recognition Scholarship—Carly is the first recipient of this newly established award, funded by the Sigma Local Housing Corporation with partial matching by the ZTA Foundation. The scholarship honors academic achievement and commitment to the chapter.

Kennedy Bryan – Ruth Potts Endowed Scholarship—Kennedy was awarded this Foundation scholarship for her strong leadership and academic success, reflecting the spirit of Zeta sisterhood.

Kaitlyn Lingle – Vallera Clough Ross Endowed Scholarship & Linda F. “Townsend” Burton Memorial Scholarship—Kaitlyn earned two awards this year. The Vallera Clough Ross Endowed Scholarship honors academic excellence and chapter involvement, while the Burton Memorial Scholarship—awarded by Baker University with input from Sigma Housing Corporation—recognizes students majoring or minoring in music or the arts.

Jayda Logan – Greater Kansas City Alumnae Panhellenic Scholarship—Jayda was selected for this competitive, merit-based award. Criteria include GPA, community and sorority involvement, a written recommendation, transcript, and a live Zoom interview. Jayda impressed the committee with her achievements and leadership as a rising senior and graduate of a KC-area high school.

We are incredibly proud of Carly, Kennedy, Kaitlyn, and Jayda for representing Sigma Chapter with excellence. Congratulations, sisters!

Crowned Correspondence

May 20, 2025

Dear Sisters,

After returning for my 50th White Violet and remembering my path to Zeta, which likely looked much different than most in attendance, decided I want to help those who might have paths similar to mine.

I want to help purchase the ‘undergarments’ for the Baker University Zeta house that provided inexpensive room and board for this small town girl from a large family with no means to assist her with the expense of ‘college’. I did not realize at the time that my room and board was likely subsidized by alums who wanted to keep the ‘rent’ low to keep the house full.

I did not primarily join Zeta for the social aspect. My focus was to get a degree to be able to provide for myself in the future. I felt like I was a positive addition to Zeta as I was in a high academic achiever and served as Treasurer and President. (which I had to be talked into as I did not feel qualified)

Hoping this donation helps keep the Sigma ZTA house open for years to come. Hoping it helps other young women who would not have the success they will have with an education from Baker University without the subsidized ‘rent’ from Sigma House Corp.

Sincerely,

Roberta Cooper Anderson —‘75

Welcome Home New Members

Lauren Berg – Baldwin City, KS
Lacey Bone – Leavenworth, KS
Kate Braden – Liberty, MO
Canyon Burtis – Baldwin City, KS
Nicole Deakins – Kansas City, MO
Riley Fogarty – McPherson, KS
Joelle Lane – Ottawa, KS
Cashele Love – McPherson, KS
Catie Meyer – Piedmont, OK
Molly Ogden – Hoyt, KS
Cassie Rosenbaum – Overland Park, KS
Ashlynn Willard – Osawatomie, KS
Kendall Young – Lyndon, KS



Legacy: Honoring the Past, Shaping the Future

At Sigma Chapter, we believe legacy is more than just a connection—it's a living tribute to the women who have come before us, and a promise to those who will follow. Our ZTA sisterhood is full of legacy members—daughters, granddaughters, and even great-granddaughters—carrying on a tradition of sisterhood, service, and love that spans generations.

At STAG, Maribeth Ogg Brennaman beautifully embodied the meaning of legacy. She proudly received her 50-year White Violet pin and, in a touching tribute, held a photograph of her grandmother, Bess (Elizabeth) Putnam Seevers—a Sigma ZTA. Maribeth's mother, Betty Seevers Ogg, was also a proud Sigma ZTA, making three generations of women deeply rooted in our chapter's history. Even more remarkable, all three of these women—Bess, Betty, and Maribeth—served as House Corporation Presidents, carrying forward a tradition of leadership and love for Sigma. It was a powerful reminder that ZTA's bonds of sisterhood not only stretch across generations but also grow stronger through service and devotion to our chapter home.



We were also honored to witness a special moment between Angie Heffner Portlock and her mother, Roxy Hey Heffner. Angie received her 25-year ZTA pin and brought along her daughter Kennedy, who is just a few years away from college. Roxy, who received her 50-year White Violet pin a few years ago, continues to be a shining example of lifelong Zeta sisterhood. These gatherings plant seeds in the hearts of future Zetas—seeds of tradition, connection, and belonging that could one day bloom into their own ZTA journey.

We encourage you to bring your legacy to STAG next year and help us continue nurturing the legacy of love that makes ZTA so special.

Donation Honor Roll 2024-2025

These alumnae "Heard the Call" and made donations from the heart (non-tax-deductible) to the Sigma of Zeta Tau Alpha House Corporation for the fiscal year beginning June 1, 2024 and ending May 31, 2025. Funds are used for maintaining, upgrading and improving our beloved century old chapter home at 503 9th Street. Donations of any size are valued and very much appreciated. Some alumnae send financial gifts more than once per year, so a special shout out to them now! You know who you are!

1955 Mildred (Yeamans) Buss	1968 Sarajane (Blythe) Shubert	1975 Katherine (Smitson) Cook
1956 Sherrel (Sherrets) Clark	1968 Pat Wooster-Jackson	1975 Maribeth (Ogg) Brennaman
1958 Beverly Crute	1969 Karen (Horvath) Odgers	1976 Carolee (Farris) Vincent
1958 JoAnn (Herod) Brown	1969 Rodna (Grimm) Helvick	1977 Ginny (Hylton) Shoaf
1960 Carol (Hart) Hanson	1969 Anita (Miller) Hempy	1977 Kim (Houk) Houtz Hiller
1960 Billie (Wiese) Watson	1970 Janice (Steinbrueck) Robertson	1977 Jeanne (White) Byquist
1960 Diana (Blose) Sunstrum	1970 Linda Stegner	1983 Diane (Drake) Rose
1961 Georgia (Bush) Sandlin	1970 Jane (Fields) Baker	1983 Gretchen (Kuehn) Koller
1962 Linda (Ford) Ballinger	1971 Nanette Berry	1985 Brenda (Tuller) Stasiulis
1964 Marcia (Rossiter) Hawk	1972 Mary L. Jefferson	1986 Heather Ballinger
1964 Diana (Rau) Supple	1973 Lynda (Vickland) Smallback	1987 Jeannine (Bailey) Ferrell
1966 Linda (Winter) Powell	1973 Marilyn (Rodick) Hemenway	1987 Sherri (Robinson) Schwanz
1966 Phyllis (Stegner) Kidd	1973 Nancy (Hey) Arnold	1988 Heather (Cooper) Fischer
1966 Jan (Hoch) Boyd	1974 Mona (Dippold) Mills	1992 Kathleen (Miller) Scorza
1967 Mary (Lambert) Holland	1974 Sharon (Williams) Lowery	1992 Tobi (Davis) Barnett
1967 Pam Mauch	1974 Anne (Carey) Westgate	1993 Susan (Kleinschmidt) Poling
1967 Penny Cox	1975 Roberta (Cooper) Anderson	Anonymous—Multiple sisters
1967 Kris (Randel) Waldren		

The Sigma House Corporation, and therefore the chapter, has benefitted from alumnae who have chosen to remember their time in the chapter and as alumnae with a future gift. Should you be considering that now or later, the information you would need is as follows: "Sigma of Zeta Tau Alpha House Corporation, located in Baldwin City, Kansas". Chapter physical address is 503 9th Street, Baldwin City, Kansas 66006. But, the mailing address for Sigma of ZTA House Corporation is P.O. Box 259, Baldwin City, Kansas 66006. As with other donations, gifts are from the heart and non-tax-deductible.

Welcome, Terri Driskell Our New House Director!



We are thrilled to welcome Terri Driskell as the new House Director (or House Mom!) for Sigma Chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha.

Originally from Wellington, Kansas, Terri is a retired 7th grade Social Studies teacher and proud alumna of Southwestern College in Winfield, KS. She's also a lifelong tennis enthusiast who brings both energy and warmth to our ZTA home.

Terri is already settling in beautifully, and the women of ZTA adore her! We're so excited for the years ahead and look forward to working together to continue building a supportive, fun, and memorable sisterhood experience.



Return Service Requested:

Danielle Dingey Costanza
3403 NE 67th Ter.
Gladstone, MO 64119



Donations from the Heart for Sigma Chapter of ZTA

We cannot exist without support from our amazing sisters and friends. Remember all gifts are from the heart and non-tax deductible. Our goal is complete transparency with you our alumnae base on where and what your funds are going toward. If you would like to drop a check in the mail, the address for

Sigma of ZTA House Corporation donations is 11308 Fontana Street, Leawood, KS 66211

Name: _____ Maiden: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

I am enclosing a donation of \$ _____ to be used toward the _____ New Member Scholarship
_____ General Fund _____ Window Fund or

Other _____

If you have questions or would like to join the House Corporation please email sigmazta@gmail.com.

Thank you in advance!