

F A L L 2 0 1 4

Phi Rho Fall Term Mums

Hello Phi Rho Alumni!

We hope all is well with you and that you are enjoying the start of the beautiful fall season! We are proud to announce that we are your 2014-2015 Alumni Chairs. A little about ourselves: We are both junior members of the Thrilling '13 pledge class. Maddie is a CSD major and Art and Graphic Design minor. She is also on the varsity Cross Country and Track teams. Allie is an Applied Mathematics and Business Finance major. She is not on any sports teams because of her lack of coordination. Together, we are very excited for everything that this year has to come. We will keep you updated through the termly Mums in addition to posts on the Phi Rho Sorority Facebook page (please become a member so you don't miss out on all the fun!). We are also asking for any exciting or important news in your life that you would like us to share in the Mums. Anything from an engagement to the birth of another little Phi Rho, we will be happy to share your news! Also, if you ever have any questions or concerns, please contact us through either alumniphirho@gmail.com, allisonkotleba12@augustana.edu, or madelinegannon12@augustana.edu. In this letter, we have included all you need to know about Homecoming Week. We hope you are able to attend and join us in all the festivities! Can't wait to see you ☺

Gnomes and Pickles,

Allie Kotleba

**Fall Term Vice President and
Alumni Chair**

**Maddie Gannon
Alumni Chair, Fundraising
Committee, Royal Neighbors
Committee**



Homecoming Week 2014 Schedule:

Wednesday, October 8th at 7:00
pm:

Talent Showcase

Thursday, October 9th at 7:00
pm:

Rope Pull and Yell

Friday, October 10th at 7:00 pm:

Coronation and Sing

Saturday, October 11th:

Cardboard Regatta:

Phi Rho Tailgate: 11:00-1:00
pm

Homecoming Football Game VS.
Wheaton: 1:00 pm

Phi Rho Appetizers and Drinks
at Brix in Moline: 4:30-6:30 pm



Left: The Phi Rhos walking with President Bahls and his wife, Jane, in the Labor Day Parade. Fun fact: the Phi Rhos have been walking with President Bahls in this parade for exactly 10 years now! He used to ask all Greek groups to join him in the parade, but started only asking the Phi Rhos because we were the only group to show up! Way to go alum! Another fun fact: President Bahls told us that before he was President of Augustana, the prior president refused to walk in the city's parade because he thought it was "beneath a liberal arts college to do so".

Dear Phi Rho Alumni,

As I sit here writing this letter, on a chilly fall night, snuggled on the couch of our Senior Phi Rho house, nicknamed "The Redlight", I'm reminded just how lucky I am to call this sorority my home. I'm spending this lazy Sunday evening with some of my very best friends, friends that I wouldn't have had without Phi Rho. We're chatting about our weekends, giggling excitedly about the coming weeks, and secretly dreading the end of our last year at Augie. It's in these simplest of moments that I remember all that this sorority has given to me—and all that I hope to give back this year as the Phi Rho President.

Since my first few days on Augustana's campus, I knew that I wanted to be a Phi Rho. I saw the "Phi Rho Nation" everywhere I went on campus, and knew that if there was ever a group to be in, it was this one. It wasn't because of the matching maroon jackets, or the Greek letters on their cars; it was because of the poise, sophistication, and confidence that every Phi Rho carried with them. And it didn't just stop there; when I saw them interacting with one other, I could see the deep rooted loyalties, the bonds of sisterhood, and the loving friendship they all shared. I could tell that their strength and dignity came from the friendships they had made. I knew that if I was lucky enough to call myself a Phi Rho it would be some of the best years of my life. And let me tell you, it definitely has been.

I cannot begin to describe the sense of pride I feel when I reflect on all this organization has to offer. Just like most of you, I've had my ups and my downs, and with each rise and fall of this thing we call life, I've found sisters by my side every step of the way. Without these women standing beside me, I know I would not be where I am today.

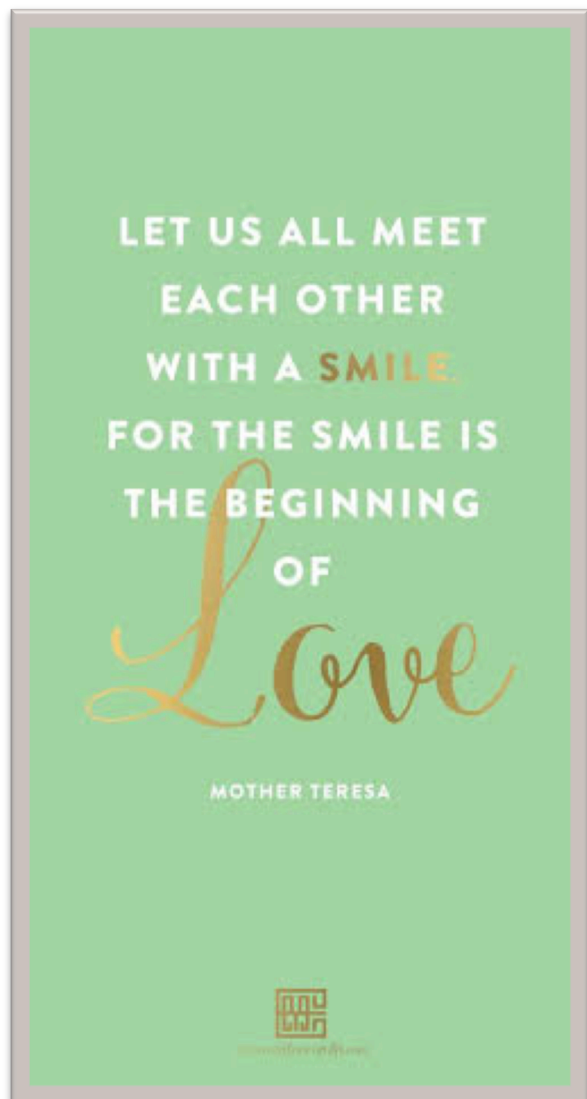
Earlier in the school year, the Phi Rho's had the privilege of having Miss Iowa, Aly Olsen, attend our weekly meeting to engage us in conversation regarding cultural diversity, controversial social and political issues, and most importantly, about women empowering women. To me, this last one really hit home because it was what initially attracted to me to this amazing group of women. This concept highlights some of the fundamental values we instill in each new pledge class we invite into the sorority. During pledging we constantly tell our new members to trust and lean on their sisters, to rely on one another, and to work together to become one whole unit. Throughout my years in Phi Rho, I've found that we practice what we preach—we build one another up, and highlight and embrace each other's accomplishments and victories.

As this let finds you in the coming weeks, I encourage you to remember your days in Phi Rho, and challenge you to reach out to those you may have lost contact with. The bonds that we made will truly last through the years – bonds that were built on friendship, strength, and love for one another. So grab your sister's hand, bend your knees, and remember to always lean on your sisters.

Menos Filetes Estes,

Tesia Kolodziejczyk
Fall 2014 Phi Rho President

Greetings Phi Rho Alumni,

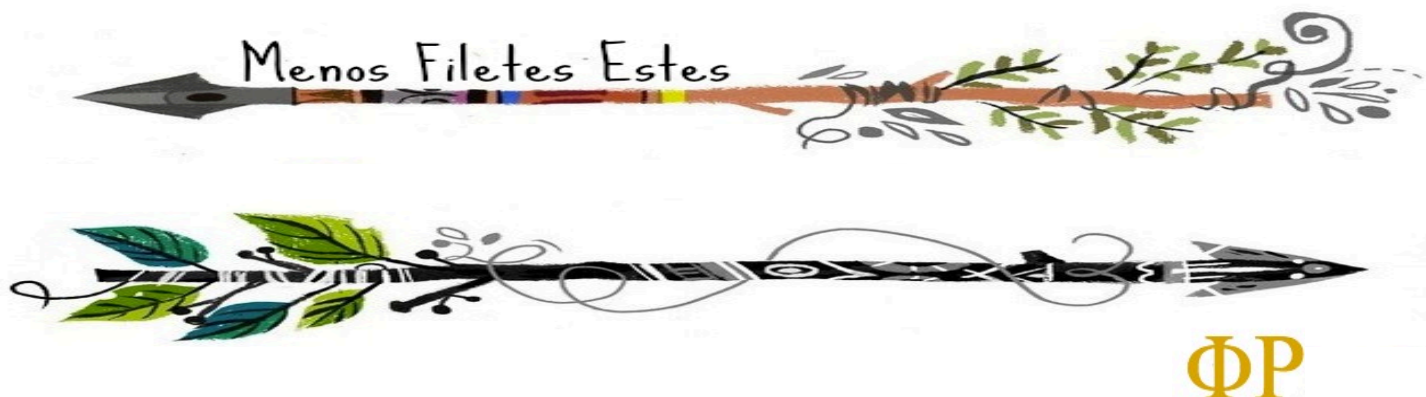


I hope this fall season finds you well. I have the honor of being the current Fellowship Chair, and I wanted to give you some information about things I do in my position. One of the best parts about my officer roll is the weekly fellowship nights that I hold for active members. It is consistently touching to see girls willing to spend an hour of their valuable free time each week for thoughtful reflection and prayer. Even more rewarding is witnessing members opening up, sometimes quite vulnerably, to one another. One new project that I started this term was a "Kindness Project" inspired by alum Deanna Rowe. The ultimate goal of the project is to foster a sense of closeness within the sorority, and on a more individual level, to form closer personal bonds with those who we do not know as well. Throughout the term, each person will do one act of kindness for their partner. Then, they will send me a picture somehow depicting the kind act they performed, and I will create a collage with all the acts of kindness done. This will be something really cool to look back on in later years, or even to display at events to physically show one of the reasons why Phi Rho is truly special. I encourage any of you that want to be kept up-to-date on fellowship happenings to request to join our "Phi Rho Fellowship" Facebook page. In the past, the fellowship chairs have updated it with prayers and intentions said at the meetings or fellowship nights, but from now on I would like to make it more of a place for others to post their personal prayers or intentions. The other active members and I would love to hear from you all!

Sending positive thoughts your way- Happy Fall!!!

Casey Janko

Fall 2014 Fellowship Chair



the Tradition of 3i

By the Fierce 14's

"Living on 3i is a perfect way for all of us to get closer as a pledge class. I'm most looking forward to being able to get ready and be together with everyone all the time, having chill nights with any girl on the floor, and knowing I can hang out with any of my sisters and have a blast"

→ **Allie Bettenhausen**



"Pledging forced us to be together, but 3i lets us get to know each other on a deeper level. We can spend time and get to know everyone as an individual and not just as a group"

→ **Krista Dawson**



"Since we're all sisters, living together on the same floor makes it feel like a home, and, for me, since I wasn't able to come to a lot of pledging activities, it's easier for me to connect with people that I wasn't able to know before. And it's nice to know that we're living somewhere that other sisters have lived in the past, continuing tradition."

→ **Allison Bjork**





"I'm excited to make so many goofy memories with people and go crazy and have fun with everyone"

→ **Jess Berry**

"It Feels Like Home to me. It definitely emphasizes unity. Before I lived on 3i, I was close with some people, but now I can just walk into anyone's room and feel completely comfortable. If I'm ever down, I always have a shoulder to cry on; if I'm happy, my sisters bring me higher."

→ **Kylie Gember** and **Rachel Hale**



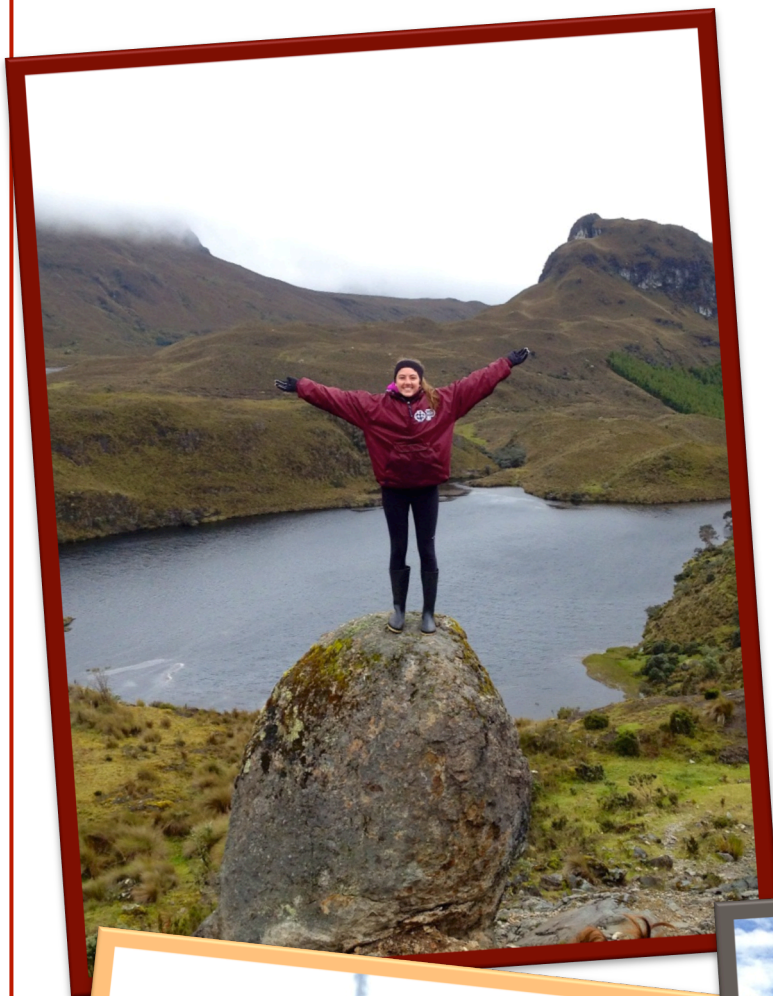
Phi Rhos ABROAD

Spending six weeks in northwestern **Greenland** this summer was one of the most incredible things

I've ever experienced. I got the opportunity to explore a unique part of the world that most people won't ever get the chance to see and I handled some amazing birds like falcons and puffins. Working with the High Arctic Institute taught me a lot about the birds we worked with and the region we were in, but also helped me learn a lot about myself and my future goals.

Fallon Meyer
Thrilling '13 Pledge Class





This summer I had the opportunity to study abroad in the beautiful country of **Ecuador** for 5 weeks. During my trip,

I visited many different cities, took 2 classes towards my Spanish minor, and learned about the culture and way of life there. For 4 of the 5 weeks I stayed with a host family which was a really cool experience, much different than anything

I've ever done. Being alone in a foreign country and living with a family definitely put me out of my comfort zone but taught me a lot and made me more independent.

Most importantly I worked on my Spanish, which was challenging at times but helped me improve. Overall, the trip was an amazing experience and I hope to visit again someday!

Hana Lobsinger
Thrilling '13 Pledge Class



In **London** this summer I interned at Kings College Hospital in the Department of Clinical Effectiveness. Living, working, and going to classes in London for the summer was a surreal experience that really opened my eyes to the diversity of the world. Traveling to Stanage Edge in the midlands of England was by far my favorite experience. While there I took a 9 mile hike up through the countryside into the peaks where they filmed *Pride and Prejudice*. It was a beautiful view that allowed me to step out of the city for awhile at take in the true beauty the world has to offer!

Karlie Everett
Timeless '12 Pledge
Class





Going abroad to **Italy** was more than just a soccer experience for our team it was a bonding opportunity and a trip with our best friends. Although we traveled to countless cities across Italy, we did play 2 games and additional small sided scrimmages with a local high school club team, which was defineltly a very rewarding experience. It was only an 8 day trip but I wouldn't have done anything differently :)

Kerri
Skotnicki
Timeless '12
Pledge Class



Spending 8 days in **Italy** with my soccer team many of who are also Phi Rhos was an experience I will never forget. We played 3 games in Italy and left undefeated which was a great feeling. We were also lucky enough to tour Italy from Milan to Florence to Pompeii to Naples to Rome. We were able to see some amazing sights the ruins of Pompeii, the Amafli Coast, the Isle of Capri and Vatican City.

Kimberly Grimmer
Timeless '12 Pledge Class

Our trip to **Italy** was the best experience of my life so far! We covered the entire country, traveling from Milan, all the way down to Naples. The sights were gorgeous, the soccer was successful, and the memories with 15 of my best friends are priceless! I will forever remember this wonderful trip!

Stefanie Hamaker
Thrilling '13 Pledge Class



Bottom Left: Kortney Hix ('13), Stef Hamaker ('13), and Jess Kras ('13).

Above: Phi Rho soccer family Jess Kras ('13), Kerri Skotnicki ('12) and Bri Frys ('14).



Our week in **Italy** was one of the best weeks of my life! It was filled with different foods, cultures, people, and sights to see. We visited more than 10 cities, and spent most of our time learning all about the history of the buildings and culture. My favorite part of the trip was the Isle of Capri. I can't wait to hopefully return someday!

Hannah Lohmeier
Fierce '14 Pledge Class

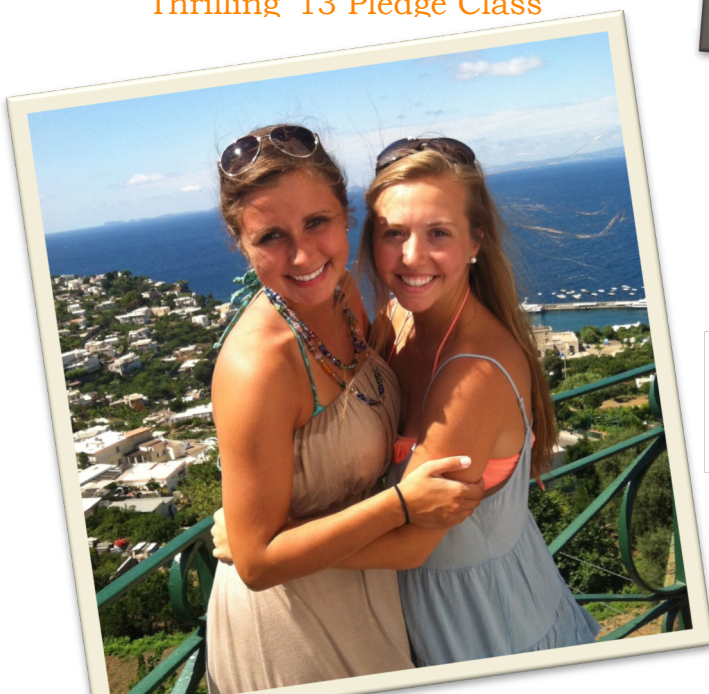
Exploring Italy with my teammates and best friends was by far the best experience of my life, thus far. We traveled all over the country and saw all the architectural masterpieces that were created throughout history and even played on the majestic beaches of the Amalfi Coast and, my favorite, the Isle of Capri. We learned a lot about the Italian culture and indulged in so much delicious Italian food. It was unreal! I will never forget that trip!

Meredith Chew
Thrilling '13 Pledge Class



The pictures on the bottom left and above are from the **Isle of Capri**. We took a boat around the island and got to jump in the Mediterranean Sea. We all really enjoyed this day.

The picture on the top left is from the dome of St. Peters Basilica. We climbed over 500 steps to get to the dome.



Kelly Farell
Thrilling '13 Pledge Class

What Has Phi Rho Been Up To?

This Labor Day weekend, the Phi Rhos participated in the Labor Day Parade in Rock Island.

Left: Phi Rho members walk and pass out candy as President Bahls and his wife, Jane, drove through the Parade in this little mobile thing.

Bottom Left: Casey Janko ('13) passes out candy to little children. Casey's favorite part of the Parade was seeing Phi Rho alum in the crowd and giving them candy ☺

Bottom Right: Kat McCoy ('14) hands out candy to little children.





The Phi Rhos had the privilege of meeting Miss Iowa 2014, Aly, to help her prepare for the Miss America Pageant. Our advisor, Dr. Dan Lee, has been prepping the Miss Iowa contestants for the interview questions on world and current events for the past few years. It was a great experience to meet with her and to watch her make it to the top 15.



At first-year orientation this year, there was a professional hypnotist. Two Phi Rhos, Allie Kotleba ('13) and Wendy Guadarrama ('13) volunteered as tributes and were selected to participate. Both were successfully hypnotized, as you can see in these pictures. In the right picture, the hypnotist informed Allie and Wendy that they had a balloon tied to their hand (explaining their weird arm placements).

Phi Rho Car Wash

Over the summer during Bix weekend, Phi Rho had a car wash fundraiser. Girls from all three-pledge classes came to help wash cars and raise money. We raised over \$300 for the sorority!



The top left picture is of senior Anna Kylo ('12) promoting our car wash to passers-by. The top middle picture is of senior Kaitlyn Markowski ('12) washing a Sheriff's police car. The top right picture is of juniors Allie Kotleba('12), Ali MacDonald ('12), and Casey Janko ('12).

As always, any donations to the Phi Rho Sorority are greatly appreciated!

1. Make checks payable to Phi Rho
2. Please send checks directly to:
Miranda Pence 822 29th Street,
Rock Island, IL 61201