

# The Parthenon

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 1

FALL 2012

## Home Coming Event Winners:

### Sidewalk chalk

1st - Chi Omega,  
Delta Chi, Sigma  
Alpha Epsilon &  
Iota Phi Theta

### Lip Sync

1st - Chi Omega  
Delta Chi, Sigma  
Alpha Epsilon &  
Iota Phi Theta

### Parade Float

1st - Kappa Delta,  
Kappa Alpha, Tau  
Kappa Epsilon, &  
Zeta Phi Beta

## Homecoming 2012

Every year Valdosta State Students look forward to a week full of activities and competitions known as Homecoming. Homecoming 2012 was very successful for the Greek Life community. In which all of the fraternities and sororities participated in. Councils were paired together and competed against other teams throughout the week. Some of the events consisted of a sidewalk chalk competition, lip sync show and a parade float. The winners of the homecoming competitions can be seen on the left.

Homecoming was made even better by our Blazer football team who put on a great show beating Delta State 59-41. During the game the Homecoming Queen was announced in which Kyler Dessau sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta was crowned the winner.



# Greek Unity

## Where Are We Going to Head?

The state of Greek Life here at Valdosta State is at crossroads that will determine the future identity of our community and the college. An idea of Greek unity has been proposed once more in a drastic fashion, the Greek housing conversation is in the air, and policies are being enforced. This is the time that we, as a whole, need to look at these “obstacles” and decide what we want our community to be like at VSU. As an IFC man and executive member within my Fraternity, I know that these topics are either talked about in a heated discussion or tabled until a time when it “actually matters.” Well that time is now, whether we choose to believe it or not. These ideas of Greek unity, housing, and policies have been brought up at our rival schools and their Greek communities have responded, and now it’s our turn. So far this semester there has been progress regarding these topics with the creation of the Greek Unity Council, Greek Housing Steering Committee and the luncheon and learn. These meetings allow members from all three councils to get together and discuss important topics together, instead of relying on the Greek Life Office to relay the message individually to each council. With that being said, the involvement of all the executive council leadership from different councils is not going to change much. We are asking every member, advisor, and alumni from each chapter to start making a difference in our Greek community. We tell everyone that we hold ourselves to a higher standard, so let’s demonstrate it and not rely on our executive members to handle everything. There are a little over 1,100 of us here at Valdosta State; it shouldn’t be that hard if we all chip in.

Justin Woods

Greek Life Intern



# Order of Omega

Order of Omega is a national honor society that recognizes excellence in academics and leadership among the Greek community. The Zeta Omega chapter of Order of Omega was pleased to welcome 32 new members to our chapter in the fall 2012 semester! This year Order of Omega has strived for active membership and an increased presence on campus. Elections were held this semester for the 2013 Executive Board. Our new executive board consists of President Cliff Crummey, Vice President Michael Nuce, Secretary Ainsley Robinson, and Treasurer Mariah McDaniel. We are looking forward to a very productive year!



## Greek Ambassadors



Greek Ambassadors at Valdosta State is a diverse group of Greeks that are selected to help our Greek Community to continue to grow. These chairs consist of Greek Newsletter, Recruitment booklet, Greek Promotions, Greek Week, New Member Education and Greek Assembly. Greek Ambassadors plays a major role in many of the activities seen at VSU. Without there support and hard work many of the programs and events Greek students attend would not be as well run.

The Collegiate Panhellenic Council is the programming and governing body of the six National Panhellenic Conference sororities at Valdosta State University. Every woman who joins a sorority at VSU becomes a member of the College Panhellenic Council. It is the council's objective to unite sorority women on campus and improve the overall Greek image. This semester the Panhellenic Council conducted a successful sorority recruitment and a council sponsored philanthropic dance competition, Greek Get-Down, that raised money for Cystic Fibrosis. Congratulations to the newly elected 2013 CPC Executive Council

President: Alina Goldberg  
VP of Development: Jamie Mauldin  
VP of Recruitment: Kimmi Cantrell  
VP of Finance: Anna Blackburn  
VP of Public Relations: Erin Dobbins  
VP of Community Service: Leeann Smart  
VP of Communications: Macey McGlamry



## Alpha Delta Pi



The sisters of Alpha Delta Pi welcomed 26 new members into our sisterhood this fall! We are so excited about our upcoming events with our philanthropy and sisters. For the month of October we have been doing a "Pop tab challenge" to raise money for our philanthropy, The Ronald McDonald House. We will also be having a Zumbathon on November 3, 2012. Everyone is invited and sisters will be selling tickets for \$5, again to raise money for the Ronald McDonald House charities! We have been super successful with these events and cannot wait for our new sisters to continue their experience.

## Alpha Sigma Alpha

The Theta Mu chapter of Alpha Sigma Alpha at Valdosta State is very pleased that we have had such a successful recruitment. Being so close to our total is very exciting for our chapter. Recruitment as a member was an amazing experience, bonding with my sisters was so fun and it's great to see us grow as a chapter. This recruitment was our best yet, our VP of Recruitment Kimmi Cantrell and her committee did an amazing job. Theta Mu received the largest pledge class during Valdosta State University's CPC Recruitment with 28 new members. This is a great accomplishment for our chapter since this is only our third year on campus. We are so excited and cannot wait to see what our new members will accomplish and bring to the Theta Mu chapter of Alpha Sigma



# Chi Omega



Chi Omega is proud to announce that they have 25 beautiful, well-rounded new members that pledged this fall! Chi Omega is also pleased to announce that they received Chapter of Excellence for a second consecutive year as well being named Chapter of the Year, two years running. The ladies of Chi Omega raised over \$17,000 for the Make-a-Wish foundation this past year. They are also constantly involved in different community service projects such as helping out at Second Harvest food bank, spending a Saturday morning teaching children about asthma, hosting a blood drive called *Chicken Week*, volunteering at the Boys and Girls club, and the Valdosta Animal Shelter. The sisterhood is stronger than it has ever been and the ladies are continuing to do many events to strengthen their bonds like tubing down a river, cooking out, tie-dyeing shirts, or just hanging out watching movies. Chi Omega is truly work-

The Eta Iota chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha started the Fall Semester Strong with Fall Recruitment. We were able to meet total with some amazing new members and are proud to now call them our initiated sisters.

In 2012, we met and exceeded our fundraising goals by raising more than \$15,000 for our philanthropy, breast cancer awareness and education. We were able to share valuable prevention information to hundreds of Valdosta State University women and women in the Valdosta community at events such as Big Man On Campus and our annual Pink Out Game. These events are very important to our chapter and we were very pleased with how successful they were. We also have been seen around campus throughout the month of October thinking PINK. Every Wednesday of the month we invited students and staff to support our fight against breast cancer by collecting Yoplait lids, wearing pink ribbons and becoming more aware of the facts.

We remain active in other VSU student organizations and we are proud to have all 110 members of our organization involved in at least one other campus organization, with 25% of our membership serving in a leadership positions. We participate in intramural activities and can be seen at virtually all of the University's sporting events and activities. We are proud of our alma mater and always look forward to showing our Blazer Pride!

# Zeta Tau Alpha



# IFC

The 2012 Fall Semester has been a great semester for the Interfraternity Council. IFC hosted Fall RUSH at the end of August. Of the 125 men who participated in IFC RUSH, 120 received a Bid to join one of our 9 Fraternities. The success of RUSH can be credited to the VP of Recruitment, Andrew Golden, and the rest of the IFC Council: Chuck Jones, Tullis Beasley, John David Smith, Chris Edwards, J.J. Michaels, Justice Purser, Austin McKenna, and Graham Davis. Also, this semester, in an effort to keep fraternities in compliance with Valdosta State University rules and regulation, IFC created a Judicial Board comprised of a representative of each IFC Chapter. Another accomplishment was the revision of the IFC Constitution and Bylaws. The conclusion of this semester long project has the outgoing council excited to see the progress continued during the next year with the new IFC Council.

Recently, the 2013 IFC Executive Council was instated.

President: J.J. Michaels

VP of Judicial Affair: Holden Burford

VP of Finance: Zachary Saxon

VP of Risk Management: Jerry Carrafa

VP of Communications: Robert Wehling

VP of Recruitment: Daniel Coccia

VP of Scholarship: Alex Green

VP of Community Service: Eric Parrish

VP of Advancement: John Hanna



## Kappa Alpha Order



The Delta Rho chapter of the Kappa Alpha Order was established here at Valdosta State University back in 1971 and has been a leading organization on campus ever since. Emulating chivalric ideals and genteel ethics, KA translates these timeless philosophies into the mainstream of American colleges and universities. KA provides numerous community services including helping out at the local animal shelter, habitat for humanity projects and blood drives. KA also puts on several different philanthropic events that benefit their national philanthropy, the Muscular Dystrophy Association. A couple of these include the Tommy Swann skeet shooting tournament and the Warren Coats golf tournament. KA even hosts a 5k run/walk in memory of James Eunice in which the proceeds go to the James Eunice Scholarship Foundation.

Phi Sigma Kappa is most thrilled to bid our newest 11 members through the Fall 2012 rush. Throughout the semester Phi Sig members will be involved in the community in many different ways. Habitat for Humanity is one of our most favored events to reach out to the local growing community. For the third year in a row, a handful of brothers have submitted a team and will go to Wild Adventure Theme Park to partake in the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation walk. Also for the second year Phi Sigma Kappa is volunteering with the Valdosta-Lowndes Park and Recreation's Annual Honey-bee Bike Race where our brothers will be handing out water bottles and wet towels to aid the bike riders. We are always looking for ways to get involved in the community like Red Cross Blood drives and lending a hand at the Haven Foundation. Not only are the members of Phi Sig involved in the Valdosta community but also in organizations on campus such as: Order of Omega, College Republicans, Student Government Association, Inter-fraternity Council, and Students In Free Enterprise. For the rest of the semester we are looking forward to our annual Parent Alumni Banquet honoring the brothers and the new members for their efforts to develop character, strive for scholarship and promote brotherhood.

## Phi Sigma Kappa





# Delta Chi

The brothers of Delta Chi have had a very productive fall semester thus far. After a very successful Rush, in whom the fraternity added some of the best and brightest young men that attend Valdosta State University to their numbers, the Fraternity continued the semester by re-dedicating themselves to the pursuits of scholarship, maintaining an active presence in school related events, and competing in a wide variety of intramural sports. Delta Chi supported and participated in Zeta Tau Alpha's fundraiser, Big Man on Campus, by putting on a performance that no one who was in attendance is likely to forget. The brothers of Delta Chi also participated in, and won Homecoming alongside the sisters of Chi Omega, the brothers of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, and the brothers of Iota Phi Theta. The Fraternity is currently looking forward to hosting its first Wiffle Ball Tournament in November



# Sigma Chi

This fall semester was an exciting and rewarding time for the newly chartered Sigma Chi - Lambda Mu ( $\Sigma\chi\text{-}\Lambda\mu$ ) chapter. Over the summer many brothers were sent to the Balfour Leadership Training Workshop in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, from which they came back with great new ideas, the biggest one being to bring back Derby Days to VSU's campus. They worked hard to plan an awesome Derby Days in which all the proceeds went to Children's Miracle Network. Since their installation back in October of 2011, the brothers of Sigma Chi have wasted no time getting their name out on campus. At the end of the 2011-2012 school year Greek Assembly, Sigma Chi received many awards including IFC Chapter of the Year, IFC Highest Overall GPA, IFC Highest New Member GPA, and the very prestigious IFC Chapter of Excellence. Sigma Chi was the first fraternity in VSU's Greek Life history to ever receive this award and they are very proud of that distinction. They have also completed many acts of community service, and they held many brotherhood and recruitment events including Sigma Chi's national Mission 365 recruitment program. Earlier in the semester, in honor of September 11th, they held a cookout for the local Valdosta firefighters. Also, on the 15th of September they held their annual Merlin Olsen Day of service in which they cleaned up their adopted section of Northside Dr. They are steadily planning philanthropic events and working tirelessly on raising money and becoming known in the community and on campus.



## *Tau Kappa Epsilon*



The brothers of the Zeta Nu chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon are very optimistic going into this new school year. Near the end of spring semester 2012, many of our alumni began to pitch in a helping hand with the reconstruction of our chapter, particularly with renovations to our fraternity house. These actions by our alumni have brought our active chapter into a much closer relationship with them, leading to many exciting opportunities for the future. With our main focus having been the rebuilding of our chapter, we are now turning our attention to activities outside of our own. This spring semester, we will be turning our efforts toward becoming more involved with on campus activities and improving our Greek relations. We will be hosting our annual event of Car bash in the spring semester of 2013, where we will be donating all proceeds to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, our main philanthropy. Also, many of our brothers have been extremely active in community service, collectively having the most service hours for our chapter in years. As the school year continues, we will continue to aid college men in mental, moral, and social development.

**"You can take the Brothers out of the Fraternity, but you can't take the Brotherhood out of the Brothers."**

## *National Pan-Hellenic Council*



The National Pan-Hellenic Council, Incorporated (NPHC) is currently composed of nine (9) International Greek letter Sororities and Fraternities: Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc., Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. NPHC promotes interaction through forums, meetings and other mediums for the exchange of information and engages in cooperative programming and initiatives through various activities and functions.

Members in the local NPHC take part in many activities on and off of the campus of Valdosta State University. During the fall 2012 semester, the VSU NPHC is in the process of helping the South Side Community Recreation Center. Other events include Can Castle and hosting cookouts and game nights for all to attend.



## Alpha Kappa Alpha

Since chartering on May 23, 1976 the Kaptivating Kappa Upsilon Chapter of *Alpha Kappa Alpha* has been devoted to serving the campus of Valdosta State University along with the Lowndes County community for the last thirty-five years. Through our profound purpose and the vision of our esteemed founders, we stand proud to keep the legacy of our illustrious sisterhood alive. Kappa Upsilon is continuing forward with commitment to "Service to ALL Mankind". The Kappa Upsilon Chapter of *Alpha Kappa Alpha* has kept the commitment this year in being of SERVICE at the Lake Haven Nursing Home, Second Harvest Food Bank, Adopt a Highway, Habitat for Humanity, Valdosta Soup Kitchen, and Valdosta's Local Juneteenth Celebration. Through our signature program initiatives we have educated our fellow peers on how to be successful in college with our signature educational forum *AKAdemics*. Under these same program initiatives we will be partnering with our sponsoring Graduate Chapter in facilitating a mentoring program for young ladies. We are also proud to say that we supported the fight for Breast Cancer in hosting our annual "Think Pink Week" by raising funds and awareness for the Susan G. Komen foundation and serving in other capacities in the community. *Alpha Kappa Alpha* has made and will be making many contributions to the community and we are pleased to continue to contribute to our mission of SERVICE. With more events to come for the semester we invite you to embark with us on our journey as we continue to uphold our legacy of being the *First & Finest!* *Alpha Kappa Alpha* wishes each of you a productive rest of the semester!



## Delta Sigma Theta

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is a private, non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide assistance and support through established programs in local communities throughout the world. A sisterhood of more than 200,000 predominately Black college educated women, the Sorority currently has over 900. The major programs of the sorority are based upon the organization's Five Point Programmatic Thrust. Our Chapter here at Valdosta State University is Theta Tau. It was the first black Greek letter organization on the campus of Valdosta State College and still is the representation of the principles set forth by our Illustrious founders. Its members have continued to display excellence in scholarship, outstanding service to the community, and the continued dedication to maintain strong sisterhood. Some of our recent accomplishments include Highest Chapter GPA, Chapter Excellence in community Service and Philanthropic activities, Chapter Excellence in campus involvement and leadership, Greek President of the Year (Jasmine Coer) and .Greek Achiever of the Year (Kenda Davis)



## Iota Phi Theta

Iota Phi Theta Fraternity, Inc. was founded on September 19, 1963 on the campus of Morgan State College(University) in Baltimore Maryland by 12 non-traditional college students. The DePHlant Delta Phi Chapter of Iota Phi Theta was chartered on the campus of Valdosta State University on March 29, 2001. The brothers of Iota Phi Theta have been taking strides to continue their fraternal motto of "Building a Tradition, Not Resting Upon One." The chapter currently holds



Most Improved GPA for the 2011-2012 Academic Year and a host of several successful programs such as, Adopt-A-Road, Greek Unity Summer Week, Founder's Week, Amateur Talent Night, Blazer Buddies and the Presidential Watch Party. The men of Iota Phi Theta will continue to make strides of excellence and hold the fraternal principles to high esteem. To be considered for eligible membership a prospect must have at least a 2.5 GPA or Higher, 15 minimum credit hours completed and a minimum of 20 community service hours.

## *Kappa Alpha Psi*

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Kappa Alpha Psi was founded on the campus of Indiana University on January 5, 1911. In the early 1990s, African-American students were actively dissuaded from attending college. Formidable obstacles were erected to prevent the few who were enrolled from assimilating into co-curricular campus life. This ostracism characterized Indiana University in 1911, thus causing Elder W. Diggs and nine other black students to form Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. The Fiery Nupes of the Lambda Phi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi were chartered November 11, 1983. Since being chartered, 13 lines of young men have crossed the burning sands and have continued to strive for ACHIEVEMENT. The chapter strives for excellence in servicing the campus as well as the community while upholding the morals of their founders.

## *Phi Beta Sigma*

"On March 31, 1979, the Kappa Delta chapter of Phi Beta Sigma was established on the campus of Valdosta State College. There were five prominent chartering members who helped propel the name of Phi Beta Sigma and Kappa Delta into the future. These five brothers became the nucleus of what was to grow into the largest and most popular Black Fraternal Organization at Valdosta State College. Today, the Kappa Delta Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma enjoys the admiration and respect of both Black and White Greeks alike, the students, and the administrators of Valdosta State University. Our brothers have involved themselves in all phases of college life: The Student Government Association, The Interfraternity Council, and the Campus Activities Board just to name a few. We are getting bigger, better and more involved each year."





Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. was founded November 12, 1922 on the campus of Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana. Sigma Gamma Rho is a nonprofit service and social organization with over 85,000 members internationally. The organizations colors are royal blue and gold and their mascot is the French Toy Poodle. The sorority's flower is the Yellow Tea Rose. Nationally, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority engages themselves in various community service projects such as Project Reassurance, Program for Africa, and the National Morrow Donor Program, just to name a few.

The Lambda Beta Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority Inc. was chartered on the campus of Valdosta State University in October of 1988 by seven ladies. Since then, the

Lambda Beta Chapter has been successfully impacting the community by hosting forums on Breast Cancer, Postpartum Depression, Sex Education and other issues affecting society. Furthermore, the chapter has participated in many community service opportunities including: Rivers Alive, Soles 4 Little Souls, and Habitat for Humanity, and tutoring at local public elementary schools.

The Lambda Beta Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., wishes you the best this academic school year.

## Zeta Phi Beta

Since chartering on January 26<sup>th</sup> 1977 the Alpha Theta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Incorporated has been dedicated to the campus and students of Valdosta state University. Through their founding principles of finer womanhood, scholarship, service, and sisterly love the ladies of the Alpha Theta Chapter have won a number of awards not only on the campus level but on a regional and state level as well. The Alpha Theta chapter is involved in numerous campus and community wide projects, among them is the adoption of SL Mason Elementary school, in which the women of the chapter provide needed school supplies, host events, tutor, and serve as role models for young boys and girls. This chapter is also the sponsor of a Valdosta Health Center program called Baby Luv which is dedicated to the reduction of deaths among premature infants. With this program, women who are considered at risk are mentored throughout their pregnancy to ensure the health of both themselves and their child. Throughout the years the Alpha Theta Chapter has been a successful impact on both, the students of Valdosta State and the overall community with educational forums such as; breast cancer awareness, Veterans Day awareness, cyber bullying forums, money management forums, and other issues effecting society. Whether it's big or small the women of this Chapter remain true to their founders goal that Zeta Phi Beta be a "Community conscience, action oriented organization" one that is not overshadowed by stereotypes or the social aspects of Greek life. This small family rounded chapter holds firm to the belief of quality over quantity, and continues to uphold their powerful legacy.



# Letter from Erin

A letter from your friendly neighborhood Greek Advisor...

As a newcomer to Valdosta, I cannot thank you enough for welcoming me into your community and being patient with my adjustment to all things VSU. I have really enjoyed getting to know your chapters and the points of pride within our Greek community. For those of you who have not had a chance to meet me, I want to share a little bit about myself. I am originally from New Orleans, but I moved every three years until high school when my parents finally rooted us in Panama City, Florida. I played soccer, swam and taught sailing lessons growing up. To this day, being at the beach is when I feel most myself. I went to FSU (GO NOLES!) and got a degree in Philosophy (don't ask...) where I was the typical overly-involved student. I got my Master's in Higher Education at the University of South Carolina where I advised a fraternity during their transition from colony to charter and served as a live-in house mother for a different fraternity (do ask...there are some great stories there). I have spent some time living and working in DC and LA, one of which I loved and the other not so much. I have a fantastic significant other in Tallahassee and my kid brother is currently spending a year abroad in Belgium, just because he can.

My transition to Valdosta and the Greek community has been so exciting....truly there is never a dull moment. I survived a crazy two weeks of CPC Recruitment, and even captured a bat to prove it. I was blown away by the pride and finesse displayed at the NPHC Informational as each chapter highlighted their unique history and marks of distinction. I was welcomed into a number of IFC fraternity houses during IFC Rush and appreciate the men who spent time making sure the houses were presentable (no really, thank you) and cooking (or catering) awesome food like fried Oreos and low country boils.

If you have not yet caught on yet (at which point, you must not be paying attention) I am a big supporter of Greek Unity. I think there is so much joy and enrichment to be found in learning from one another about not only our differences and the things that make us unique, but also the common things that we share that make us all Greek. While pride in your brotherhood/sisterhood is to be expected, we are each called to be part of something greater than ourselves...something Greek! I wish you all the best of luck in concluding the semester, staying focused on coursework and exams and having safe travels to wherever your winter destinations may be. I want to thank the council executive boards that have done such a fantastic job serving the Greek community this year and each of the chapter officers who do so much and sacrifice a great deal in an effort to support and lead their chapters. I look forward to the new officers that will transition in during January and the great improvements you will surely bring to our VSU Greek community.

-Erin Sylvester-  
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