



FOUNDER'S DAY

2021



MANITOBA PRECEPTOR BETA, WINNIPEG ZOOMS THROUGH FOUNDER'S DAY

On April 28, 2021 **Manitoba Preceptor Beta, Winnipeg** held a wonderful Founder's Day celebration via Zoom. All the normal observances were present. They began with a welcome from their president, Evenly Yarn, and the Opening Ritual lead by Bernice Kellar. Next, Pat Danowski lead the sisters in the Founder's Day pledge. Then Diane Ward read the Message from International and announced the new theme, "90 Years to Shine" for the 2021-2022 sorority year. Following, sisters participated in a program put on by Barb Ryzowski. Sisters were asked where and when they joined Beta Sigma Phi and if available to share a photo. To end the event they recited the Closing Ritual and Mizpah.

FOUNDER'S DAY ZOOMTASTIC

Ontario Laureate Delta Phi, Brockville has coped pretty well during the Covid-19 epidemic by utilizing Zoom for their meetings, with very good attendance. They celebrated special events, mourned the death of one of their members and supported their local women's shelter, Interval House.

When Founder's Day approached the sisters looked again to Zoom. Taking advantage of the date, they performed the Torchbearer ritual for Dena Kreissler and the Golden Circle ritual for Loreen Hughes. It was a happy occasion.



The honoree's, the newest Golden Circle members, from l-r, are Anne Minium, moderator Christine Morrow, Joan Frei and Sandee Rogers.

GOLDEN HONORS AT FOUNDER'S DAY

Three sisters were honored for 50 years of membership in Beta Sigma Phi at a Founder's Day celebration held Saturday, April 24, 2021 at the Alta Vista Country Club in Placentia, California. The ceremony was moderated by Christine Morrow of **California Preceptor Xi Sigma, Irvine**.

Those honored were Joan Frei of California Preceptor Xi Sigma, Irvine as well as Anne Minium and Sandee Rogers, both of **California Alpha Tau Master, Garden Grove**.

BON APPETIT À FOUNDER'S DAY

Idaho Xi Beta, Boise sisters joined together at Roghani's Restaurant in Eagle, Idaho to celebrate Founder's Day. It was a beautiful setting, combined with delicious food from their own personal chef. As a special bonus they received a tour of the facility. The restaurant is often rented for weddings or special events and some sisters purchased items from the gift shop, Camille Beckman's. As is customary at Founder's Day, they



recognized their Woman of the Year, Susanne Stickler, and Pledges of the Year, Shelle McKelvey and Barbara Edmondson. Winners were also drawn for the two raffles they had going for ways and means. It was so nice to have everyone there in person.



Idaho Xi Beta, Boise Woman and Pledges of the Year.



Eva Williams; Cheryl York, president of **Preceptor Alpha Iota**; and Doris Brooks.

FOUNDER'S DAY IN ENGLEWOOD, CO

Englewood, Colorado City Council celebrated Founder's Day 2021 with President Jan Harris welcoming members, two guests and three new members. The highlight of the day was a ritual for Margaret Colvin who has been a devoted sister of Beta Sigma Phi for 76 years. Margaret shared her story of joining the first chapter to be formed in New York City in 1945 (which was featured in the December 2021-January 2022 Torch on pages 14-15). She was just as lovely that day as she was then. Sadly Margaret passed away that fall.

There were 60 year rituals for Marcia Wheeler and Helen Erickson. Eva Williams and Doris Brooks were honored for 50 years in sorority by their chapter president Cheryl York. Carole Battershell was recognized and honored for her 45 years as a member.

Kathy Parks presented Margaret with a dozen yellow roses in a vase that had been etched with roses by member April Dahlager. April also etched a rose on all the small vases that were presented to each member for being "Women of the Year."



Margaret Colvin is presented with a dozen yellow roses. April Dahlager on Margaret's left with Kathy Parks presenting the roses.

FOUNDER'S DAY EXTRAORDINAIRE

In May of 2021 **Littleton, Colorado City Council** was ecstatic to have their first council event since February 2020. They held their Founder's Day Extraordinaire on May 15th to include Women of the Year for 2020 and 2021, and 2021 Valentine Queens, Silver and Golden Circle ceremonies as well as a memorial for three sisters they lost in the past year. Forty-four sisters attended the luncheon at Baldoria on the Water from six chapters. It was wonderful they were able to enjoy a sorority event together again.



Women of **Littleton, Colorado City Council** at Baldoria on the Water celebrating Founder's Day.



Here are a few members of **Colorado Delta Gamma, Littleton** in attendance at the Founder's Day celebration, from left to right, Casey Romero, Courtney Ludwig, Kari Laresse and Deb DiStefano.



FOUNDER'S DAY IN VICTORIA, TX

Surrounded by yellow roses, Sue Lynn Hatcher holds a "Sisters by Choice" display she made to celebrate Founder's Day with her sisters in **Texas Torchbearer Omicron, Victoria**. She gave the invocation and reaffirmed their bond of sisterhood. The chapter had a delicious Italian lunch and looked forward to meeting again to celebrate "90 Years to Shine."

FOUNDER'S AWARDS

On June 24, 2021 **Baton Rouge City Council** hosted a fabulous Founder's Day celebration. Two special ladies were recognized at the event. The Founder's Award was given to Jeanie Streat of **Louisiana Xi Gamma Iota, Baton Rouge** and Marilyn Mayeux of **Louisiana Laureate Alpha Alpha, Baton Rouge**.

The awards were given in 2020 but due to the Covid-19 lock down the awards were presented separately by Sandra Linder, International Award of Distinction recipient, on separate occasions in 2020. Both recipients were so excited to be recognized a year later in the presence of their sisters.

Jeanie Streat is a vibrant 80 year old member who is always there to render service where needed. Her special project for the year was titled "The Power of the Purse." Jeanie set out to collect slightly used handbags from various groups to fill with necessary items such as hand soap, combs, hairbrushes, lotion, shampoo, sanitary products and more to be distributed to the homeless women in the city. With the help of friends and sorority sisters she collected over 150 handbags and enough items to fill 147 purses. The purses were delivered to Saint Agnes Home of Ladies, Travail 6:33, and Caring of Love Ministries VA Home and Clinic.

Marilyn Mayeux is a longtime member of Beta Sigma Phi and has had perfect attendance for over 25 years. Marilyn and her mother for years would collect stuffed animals and donate them to their local hospital's children's ward at Christmas time. Since then, every year Marilyn makes around 25 children's fleece blankets, made of bright cartoon and animal prints, and delivers them to the hospital in time for Christmas. A true act of love and kindness.



Founder's Award recipients Marilyn Mayeux (left) and Jeanie Streat.



FOUNDER'S DAY 2021 IN MADISON, WI

After the success of the **Madison, Wisconsin City Council** city-wide Virtual Rush on February 18, 2021 it was decided to hold a virtual Founder's Day due to continued restrictions in the country. The event was presented through Zoom with 43 attendees and two guests. In addition to the typical Founder's Day components, there were PowerPoint presentations including a memorial for a member lost during the year, a Silver Circle Ritual for six members, and the First Lady presentation. Their service project speaker was available to speak and did a fabulous job. It was wonderful for them to see so many faces they hadn't seen in a year!



SEÑORITAS CELEBRATE FOUNDER'S DAY

It is a sunny day in May. The sky is blue. Excitement is in the air! The aroma of tacos and salsa waft on the spring air. The sun catches the brilliant colors of the sombreros and serapes worn by the ladies walking down the street. They are light on their feet. Passersby can hear laughter from the passing group. They are the ladies of **New York Preceptor Beta Psi, Clifton Park**. They are on their way to a fiesta to celebrate Founder's Day. Chilled margaritas and flowers for their hair await them at the house of their hostess.

Today is the day! They will gather in person for the first time in a year. Smiles are everywhere.

Me allegro de verte de nuevo — so nice to see you again!

A FOUNDER'S DAY TO REMEMBER

Written by Vicky Ball
Photos by Ginny Wallace

Eighty sisters gathered for a socially distanced luncheon hosted by **Southwest Florida Area City Council** at the Heron's Glen ballroom in North Fort Myers on April 24, 2021. This marked the first area Beta Sigma Phi gathering since Valentines Day of 2020.

Sisters were greeted wearing masks, given name tags and assigned to tables decorated in a traditional black and gold color scheme. In addition to yellow roses in bud vases, there were small jars of honey with Beta Sigma Phi-engraved tops for favors. Sisters enjoyed a delicious lunch while listening to live music performed by a Beta Sigma Phi academic scholarship recipient and violinist, Sarah Ball.

Highlights of the day included mention of several recent Silver, Golden, Diamond and Platinum Circle Awards. Faith Aderman, of **Florida Alpha Chi Master, Fort Myers**, was presented with her 75th year pin having joined Beta Sigma Phi at just 16 years of age.

Sisters joined together in reciting the Founder's Day Pledge and shared a moment of silence in honor of the sisters who are no longer with us.

On a lighter note, a program was presented on Vera Ellen and Rosemary Clooney (both from Ohio) who were cast as the Haynes sisters in the holiday classic "White Christmas." Five city council sisters, sporting fascinators and bright yellow feathered fans, then surprised us with their own dance version of Sisters, bringing smiles to their captive audience. The applause was a sweet reward for practicing together.

The event concluded with the presentation of beautiful bouquets to nine worthy "Women of the Year." And there you have it, a "Founder's Day to Remember."



Sarah Ball, past Beta Sigma Phi Academic Scholarship Recipient and Violinist.



Faith Aderman 75th year pin recipient and **Florida Alpha Chi Master, Cape Coral** Woman of the Year.



These five sisters of **Southwest Florida Area City Council** put on quite the show dressed up all in black, sporting fascinators and yellow feathered fans in their own rendition of "Sisters" from Irving Berlin's "White Christmas." Standing, l-r, are Mary Schaible, Marsha Smith, Vicky Ball, Pam Bowman and Dorothy Klewicki.

2021 FOUNDER'S DAY LUNCHEON DOWN UNDER

On Friday May 7, 2021 **Victoria Council of Melbourne, Victoria Australia** hosted the 63rd Founder's Day luncheon at the William Angliss School of Catering. They were elated to once again host the luncheon after a year of restrictions due to the pandemic.

A Covid-Safe luncheon was attended by 75 members who enjoyed being free from their state-wide lockdown for the past year. The atmosphere was happy and up-beat with everyone renewing friendships and delighted to be meeting face to face rather than on ZOOM.

The council president, Julie Lehmann, started the official proceedings off by welcoming everyone and reading the Founder's Day Pledge. The greeting from the National Council of Women Victoria was given by **Victoria Torchbearer Alpha, Black Rock** member, Ronnieta Milliken who is now president of this organization. Council vice president, Tina Oatway proposed the toast to 90 years of Beta Sigma Phi, as the year marked the 90th Anniversary of Beta Sigma Phi.

Following the main course, Torchbearer Alpha sister, Mary Jean Hansen, was introduced as the guest speaker. She was asked to compile the history of Beta Sigma Phi in Victoria and after several months of research she had put together a comprehensive dialogue complete with photos. The story turned into the speech that Mary Jean presented at the luncheon with the added bonus of a printed book for every Victorian member.

The Victorian Girl of the Year for 2021 was announced by President Julie, and a very surprised Mary Jean Hansen was honored to accept this award.

Carol Heenan, also of Torchbearer Alpha, was Girl of the Year for 2020 and was also acknowledged. Carol received her award via ZOOM at the AGM last November.

Heather Heil of **Victoria Alpha Master, Melbourne** was honored with her Diamond Circle Ritual in acknowledgment of her 60 years of membership. The Golden Circle Ritual was also given to Jill Stephens of **Victoria Rho Master, Lara** for her 50 years of membership. Unfortunately, Renate Boutlis of **Victoria Omicron Master, Melbourne** was unable to attend to receive her Golden Circle Ritual.

Thanks was given to Julie Lehmann and her Executive Board members for organizing such a lovely day; followed by thanks to the wonderful William Angliss chef, staff and the waiters; and finally thanks to Eleanor Holden and Rae Alexander for supplying the photos of the day.



Mary Jean Hansen presenting the history of Beta Sigma Phi in Victoria, Australia.



Heather Heil receiving her Diamond Circle Ritual for 60 years of membership.



Jill Stephens receiving her Golden Circle certificate for 50 years of membership.



Janet Park and Lyn Taylor organizers.