Months of preparation, passion, and cooperation from Alpha Chapter went into Recruitment 2003 as they successfully welcomed 19 new members into the fraternity.

Preparation for Recruitment week included a spring workshop as well as a fun-filled week at the end of summer where the chapter sang songs, practiced rotations, and got reacquainted with each other readying themselves for a great week of RECRUITMENT.

Their first party was themed “Sweet Home Kappa Gamma”, a cowgirl theme in which the chapter performed a dance to Lynard Skynard’s “Sweet Home Alabama”. This party was Go Greek!, in which basic questions were answered and new friends were made.

The second night of parties was themed “Kappa Kabana” with jean Capri pants and flip-flops. A philanthropy was held this night in which the girls decorated sugar cookies for a local facility.

The third night of parties offered a brand new idea. The night was semi-formal with a theme of “Kappa’s in the City”. Alpha Chapter women were dressed in black and pink, while the room was decorated like a city, complete with silver stars and low lights. A short, comical skit was performed parodying new members deciding what sorority to pref.

Their final party night was held at the Stewart House in the garden with a theme of formal allegory. A ceremony was held, and Kappa seniors were asked to give a short story of what Kappa has meant to them. All active members were dressed in black dresses with their badges shining through the night. The trees and sidewalk were adorned with white lights.

On Saturday afternoon the senior members greeted the 19 new members outside Wallace Hall. The girls were brought to the Stewart House, where songs were sung, pictures were taken, a pledging ceremony was held, and active members and new members bonded within Kore Groups. Overall, 19 women pledged their loyalty to Alpha Chapter, one of whom is a legacy. With this new pledge class, Alpha chapter is at capacity with a total of 55 members. Alpha chapter would like to thank all of the alumnae who participated in Recruitment this year! They could not have done it without them!
To the women of Kappa,

“Kappa Kappa Gamma is an organization of women, which seeks for every member throughout her life bonds of friendship, mutual support, opportunities for self-growth, respect for intellectual development, and an understanding of and an allegiance to positive ethical principles.” After 133 years, this Kappa motto still stands true and guides Kappa women around the world. Here at Alpha Chapter, my sincerest hope is that every member feels this way about herself and her sisterhood. This motto has guided me every day for the past four years, and the ideals of Kappa have come to play a vital part in my life. Members often say, “You get out of Kappa what you put in it.” Every year, the outgoing seniors say this to actives, and every year, it is just as true as before. College life is over quickly, and the worst thing that could happen on your graduation day is to look back and wish you had been more active and less afraid to attempt the unknown.

We have accomplished amazing things this past year, including the highest GPA on campus, the addition of eighteen beautiful new members, and a renewed focus on our programming and risk management. Along with the highest GPA on campus, we also met the new Fraternity goal set forth by the Director of Chapters of every chapter at a 3.25 or better. Specifically, we have been focused on an effective new member program using Kores, overall education on risk management guidelines and purposes, and the introduction of Pathways into our programming. We are now using Kore groups effectively and frequently, and our overall new member program has greatly improved in effectiveness. The chapter is more informed and educated about risk management guidelines, and more respectful of these guidelines when choosing and facilitating events. Finally, we have just begun to introduce Pathways to Alpha Chapter, but I have the utmost faith that this chapter will continue to use Pathways, as it is a wonderful resource and guideline for complete and overall programming. Looking back over the last four years, this chapter has come a long way towards the amazing chapter it is today. When we received President Giese’s “Outstanding Greek Chapter” award last spring, it was the culmination of years of hard work by the women of this chapter—past, present, and future.

On that note, I would like to send a special thank you to the members of Chapter Council. All of the congratulations for the wonderful condition of this chapter go to all of you. Many people expressed concern last year at having such a new, young chapter council; but I knew from experience that new members to Chapter Council were also the most enthusiastic and creative officers. All of you have proven me correct. The nineteen of you have worked so hard this past year, and the combined success of this chapter is the total of your individual successes. Looking down the list of each of your names, I can recall at least one improvement you have made to your office. Your hard work made my job so much easier and more enjoyable, so I thank you all for that. I trust each and every one of you with the future of this chapter, and I know you will guard it well. I would also like to thank some of the alumni who help this chapter out tremendously as advisors—Kristi Hippen, Lucy Thompson, Jayne Whiteside, Addie Dallas, and Michelle Merritt-Gilbert. Your love for Kappa and for Alpha Chapter inspires those of us who are preparing to be alumni to also give back to the Fraternity through service to its chapters. Finally, I would like to thank Mrs. Barbara Frazier and the entire Stewart House committee for your dedication to the preservation of Kappa history and your willingness to include Alpha Chapter in all that you do. Actives continue to recognize the importance of Stewart House in Kappa’s history and how lucky Alpha is to have access to it.

Saying good-bye to this chapter will be the hardest part of leaving Monmouth College for me. My experiences in Kappa, specifically my year as President, have changed me as a person; I have grown and matured, and I believe I am better equipped to handle the rest of my life experiences. In the end, however, it is all about the beautiful, wonderful women who makeup this amazing organization. It is these women who have been my biggest fans, critics, and support over the past four years, and it is these women who I will miss the most. My greatest consolation in leaving is that Kappa is for a lifetime, and I will have the opportunity to become involved on the alumni level. It is my greatest hope that while all of you are actives, you take the opportunity to experience all that Kappa has to offer—leadership, friendship, and self-growth.

Loyally,

Jessica R. DeVore
Alpha Chapter President 2002-2003
Kappa Excellence

Kappa Kappa Gamma strives to uphold and maintain academic excellence. Once again we are number one when compared to the other chapters. Our GPA was 3.25 which fell from our 3.27 from the fall but we are still doing well. I know all our girls have been working hard to earn those high grades.

For the Spring Semester I am happy to say we had girls on both the Dean’s List and the honor roll. I would like to first point out our four ladies that received a 4.0 for the semester those include now graduated Jen Auld and Kristin Whitver, junior Jackie Bell and sophomore Marisa Kratochvil. The girls on the Dean’s List (3.67-4.0) include the girls mentioned above plus Sara Poggi, Jamie Ramsden, Jessica DeVore, Elyzia Logan, and Amy Fraser. Girls on the honor roll (3.5-3.67) include Jenna Carson, Christine Del Re, Valerie Curtis, Jessica Wolford, Tammy Welinski, Vanessa Madison, Lindsay Sackville and Allison Heaton. Congrats to all those lovely Kappa ladies!

Also this semester we are having a GPA competition with Alpha Tau Omega, whoever has the lowest GPA out of the two chapters at the end of the semester buys the other chapter a pizza.

Along with that we have a scholarship banquet recognizing people all the ladies on the dean’s list and honor plus a few other awards, such as most improved GPA and a reward to the KORE group with the highest GPA. Also we have study hours every week and the KORE group that comes the most gets a prize at the end of the semester.

We are striving for excellence and improving our weaknesses. Hopefully next semester not only will we be number one again but hopefully our GPA will increase even more.

Kappa’s Lend a Helping Hand

Over the last year, our chapter has been very involved in philanthropic events around the area and on campus. They support several national benefits and many area service projects.

One of the major benefits that we help raise money for is the American Cancer Society. Coming up this November 25th, our chapter will once again hold “Jail n’ Bail.” For one day, the ladies of Kappa “arrest” professors or faculty to be thrown in jail. To get out, they have to call friends, family, or anyone around campus to raise their “bail money.” We are excited to involve the entire campus, while raising money for a great cause. Also, Kappa’s are very involved with Relay for Life that is on campus each year. Many of our ladies head committees, and even the event coordinator is one of our seniors!

We have also raised money throughout the year to go towards the Peoria Pediatric Diabetes Resource Center. Since last spring, we have had three fundraisers to make money for this fund. It will help send children with diabetes to camp. Over Valentine’s Day, we had Secret Crush. Later in the spring, we had a Jelly Bean Guessing Game. Also, just this fall, we had a Kappa Karwash. They were all a fun way for us to bond as sisters while making money for a terrific cause.

Our chapter also does a lot of service projects. Returning again this year, we will be helping sponsor Warren County’s “Shop With A Cop.” We have donated baskets of items to Safe Harbor, a battered women’s shelter. Also, we have enjoyed making door decorations for the assisted living facilities at the local hospital. One of our favorites, however, is Pizza Roll. At the beginning of November, we, and the Sigma Phi Epsilon chapter here on campus, took 36 first and second graders from a local elementary school roller-skating at the local roller rink. We skated, provided pizza, did the hokey pokey, and just hung out! It was the best time! In another service project last spring, we signed a sheet that was sent over seas to a group of men fighting for our country. It was great to brighten their day, and it was also fun to get a letter and pictures back!

Our chapter also participates in the Rose McGill Holiday Sharing Program. We have an elderly Kappa whom is in need of some special attention. We really enjoy sending cards and gifts to her around the holidays. Also, we give each year to the Kappa Foundation to support the many programs that it provides. These are great ways that Kappas help other Kappas!

If you have any questions about our philanthropies, or would like to share a message with us, feel free to email the current philanthropy chairman for the Alpha Chapter at scrmeen@monm.edu. We love to get new ideas and responses!
Alpha Chapter's New Members of Fall 2003

- Katy Barrett is a freshman from Galesburg, IL. In high school she was involved in cheerleading, student council, pep club, and teen staff.
- Ashley Cook is a freshman from Mundelein, IL. In high school she was involved in National Honor Society, student council, cheerleading and won the Mustang Pride Award.
- Erin Dannenberg is a freshman from Arlington Heights, IL. In high school she was involved in choir, SOS, technical theater, and was on the honor roll.
- Brooke Dormire is a freshman from Mt. Sterling, IL. In high school she played basketball and received the WCC Academic All-Conference Award.
- Sarah Dwyer is a junior from Hometown, IL. At Monmouth College she was a Scot’s Ambassador, an Orientation Leader, and in the National Society for Scholars.
- Andrea Emery is a freshman from Knoxville, IL. In high school she was involved in track, cheerleading, was class president, and won the Stephanie Stickell Memorial Award.
- Selina Goddard is a freshman from Monmouth, IL. In high school she was involved in volleyball, basketball, cheerleading, SADD, and was an Illinois State Scholar.
- Hilary Hawkinson is a freshman from Yorkville, IL. In high school she was involved in cheerleading, student government, orchestra, volunteered in the community and was the National Leadership Award.
- Paige Karwoski is a freshman from St. Charles, IL. In high school she was on the dance team, the tennis team, and placed on the honor roll.
- Natasha Kemmerling is a freshman from Morrisonville, IL. In high school she was on student council, was class president, played volleyball and softball, and was also Valedictorian.
- Lori Larcombe is a sophomore from Marengo, IL. At MC she in involved in ASAP, FCA, Big Brother Big Sister, and was a inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta.
- Stacia Logan is a legacy from Dallas City, IL. In high school she was involved in basketball, volleyball, softball, and student council.
- Megan Mcguiness is a freshman from New Lenox, IL. In high school she was a cheerleader and a youth cheerleading coach. She also won the Pride of Lincoln-Way Award for Athletics.
- Megan Moose is a sophomore from Streator, IL. At MC she is an education major and student aiding at PASS Alternative School.
- Megan Murray is a sophomore from Burtonville, IL. At MC Megan is known for her skill at the bagpipes. Not only has she been inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta, but she is part of the Monmouth College Pipe Band.
- Katie Ramondi is a freshman from Addison, IL. In high school she was the captain of the basketball team, in key club, on student council, and volunteered time at an elderly home.
- Kayla Witherell is a freshman from Galesburg, IL. In high school she was involved in volleyball, cheerleading, student council, and participated in Adopt-a-Highway.

"My sisters have taught me how to live." George Wasserstein

Seniors Say Goodbye to MC

- Jenna Carson is a Secondary Education and Math major. Her favorite Kappa memories are of formal and getting her big sis Lindsay and her little sis.
- Lindsay Childs is an Elementary Education major. Her favorite Kappa memories are of the night they toilet papered the school and getting her big and little sis.
- Jessica DeVore is a Business and Accounting Major. Her favorite memories are getting her little sister Jess and her other little sister Erin., and also, the entire term of her presidency, which brought her much happiness.
- Jill Finch is a Business major. Her favorite Kappa memory is singing Grease songs on the Halloween Hayrack ride in 02'.
- Melissa Hemzacek is a Elementary Education major with a concentration in English. Her favorite Kappa memories are of her pledge class retreats, decorating campus, and bid day.
- Stephanie Iben is an Elementary Education major. Her favorite Kappa memory is eating at Steak n’ Shake with the girls, after recruitment practice.
- Deanna Laws is a Physical Education major. Her favorite Kappa memories are of the nights that we had sisterhoods and exchanges. She loved her pledge class and bid day.
From last spring to this fall the Alpha Chapter Kappa’s have been very busy enjoying sisterhoods and fun exchanges with other sororities and fraternities. Our formal last year was held in Galesburg IL. It was a wonderful night and it was great to see everyone dressed up and dancing the night away. A special thanks goes out to all the alumnae that were there that night, it wouldn’t have been the same without you! Last spring we had many great times with the different Greek Organizations on campus. We even did Jell-O Wrestling with the football players, boy was it messy! This fall we have had some fun already. We participated in slip and slide and singled out with Sigma Phi Epsilon, water balloon fight and My Tie with Alpha Tau Omega, nutrition program with Pi Beta Phi and many other exchanges. We have had craft nights, movie nights, lunch parties are in the cafeteria and we decorate the Kappa section, it is just another way for everyone to get together during the day. For Salon night we go to The Salon Company, where some Kappa’s work. We put on name into a bag and several people get picked and they can get almost anything they want done, from highlights to hair cuts to even eyebrow waxing! Formal for next semester is already in work and it should be even better then last year. It is March 20th, so alumnae keep that date open! Formal will be held at the Macomb Dining Company, we have a theme already, but it’s a surprise.

Alexis Zanis, Lyndsay Bero, and Jessica Wolfard danced the night away during formal last Spring.

"A sister is both your mirror – and your opposite."
Elizabeth Fishel

Senior Say Goodbye Cont’d

• Elysia Logan is a Physical Education major. Her favorite memories are the days that she found out who her big sister and little sisters were. She has a particular fondness to the day that her sister became an Alpha Chapter Kappa!

• Katie Minor is a Math and Art major. Her favorite memory is when she came back from being abroad and got to see everyone. She said it was also, “Remembering how much I loved being a Kappa!”

• Abi Mogge is a History and Art major. Her favorite Kappa memories are when the Kappa’s went to the basketball game and Joe’s Crab Shack.

• Jen Scudero is a Psychology major with a minor in Business. Her favorite memories are the days when she got Erin as her little sister and Marisa and her grandbaby.

• Lauren Standriff is an Elementary Education major. Her favorite memory is the night that her pledge class played with an Ougi board and then became afraid of imaginary ghosts.

• Lauren Warner is a Communication and Theater Arts major and English minor. Her favorite memories are also about family; the day Sheli became her big sis and then when she took Rhian and adopted Angela as her little sisters.

• Tammy Welninski is and Elementary Education major. Her favorite memory is when she whispered to Karissa that she wanted to be her big sister and Karissa whispered back that she wanted to be her little sister. From there they danced all crazy around the lounge.

Kappa Events
During this past year many of the Alpha Chapter Kappa’s traveled abroad. For some it was a semester in Spain, London, Scotland, or Italy, and for others it was a summer away. All of the programs that the Kappa’s traveled through are run by Monmouth College. All of the programs involved class work, written, and oral projects.

Lauren Warner a junior last year traveled to London, Florence, Venice, Rome, and Dublin studying for the entire semester. She said, “I think that making the decision to study abroad is perhaps one of the best decisions I have ever made for myself. I have always had the desire to travel so that I could see exactly how I fit into the rest of the world. It’s hard to put into words what being an international student goes through and when I came back I was left with this surreal feeling that it had all been just a dream. I knew that deep down there wasn’t going to be a way to express the ways in which I grew as a person and all the insights I had gained. However, for every time I fumbled around in a different country, or found myself being yelled at in another language, there was a million more times that I found my heart thumping inside my chest in reaction to all the incredible beauty that I would find around me. Not only was there beauty in the famous sites as well as the not-so-famous, but there was an aura of beauty among foreign strangers and how they went about living their lives.”

Three other’s traveled to Bathe during the “Reading and Reading” program and found themselves learning more about Kappa than they imagined. While in Bathe they visited the Temple of Minerva and found many connections. For example it was amazing to learn that Minerva’s pet was an owl, that in order to open the temple you needed a golden key, and even iris’s grew outside. So was it that Kappa’s just loved Bathe or perhaps that Bathe just loves Kappa? Sara Poggi stated, “This trip changed me in ways that I am still discovering today. The world to me always seemed so vast, but what I learned is that in fact it is quite small.”

The experiences that these members have had, have proved to very useful and self-gratifying. It is such a nice treat as well, to get those 9 sisters back to the chapter this semester.