DELTA THETA CHI SORORITY

PLACES OF INTRIGUE

ELECTRA PROVINCE

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KS Beta Sisters Karrissa Schmidt, Holly Weber, Brenda Thomspon, Cindi Cook, Teresa Carter Trish Schmidt, and little sister Sadie Schmidt pose With the Sherriff of Pawhuska in front of the Drummond Family's old red pickup truck in downtown Pawhuska, OK

PAWHUSKA, OKLAHOMA

A SMALL TOWN FULL OF HISTORY, ANTIQUE SHOPS, WESTERN WEAR, AND MULTIPLE RESTAURANTS

BY KANSAS BETA CHAPTER

It's really not that intriguing for women (especially DTC sisters) to enjoy shopping. But of course, the KS Beta sisters can't just go to the local mall to shop like everyone else. They must make it into an adventure. What a better adventure than to shop in the historical region of Oklahoma where numerous Osage Indians were murdered for their oil wealth and the FBI cut its teeth on its first big case

On June 27th most of the KS Beta chapter hopped into cars and took the highway and back roads to Pawhuska, Oklahoma. The town of Pawhuska is in the middle of a rocky area of land where the Indigenous tribe of the Osage were pushed by the white colonist's expansion. This area later became eastern Oklahoma and oil was soon discovered on that was thought of as "worthless land".It is also home to the Drummond Family, made famous by its matriarch Ree Drummond. Ree, rose to fame as a food blogger on the internet and then became the star of a TV show, The Pioneer Woman, on the Food Network. She launched a homey country style empire with recipes, products, and clothing. She opened a "mercantile" with her products and single handedly launched the revitalization of the county seat of Osage County, Oklahoma. The previously dying small town now boasts multiple stores, antique shops, western wear stores, multiple restaurants, a renovated operating historic hotel, an event center, and what is billed as the largest turquoise jeweler in Oklahoma. (Ask Brenda and Teresa about their jewelry wish list!). Suffice it to say, the Kansas Beta Sisters ate well that day and left more than a few dollars in that small Oklahoma town. To know more about this intriguing town and the reign of terror that to this day haunts this area, read the book Killers of the Flower Moon and the Rise of the FBI by David Grann. This book has also been adapted into the movie of the same name by Martin Scorsese and stars Leonardo DiCaprio. If murders, mysteries and shopping aren't exactly what intrigues you maybe Swedish dancers, St. Lucia, and Kottbullar (Swedish meat balls) are more to your liking. If so, a trip with the Kansas Beta's to the Kansas town of Lindsborg would be more intriguing. Lindsborg is known as "Little Sweden". Established in 1869 by a group of immigrants from Sweden to this day it still boasts that over 30% of its population are of Swedish descent. The downtown features gift shops that specialize in Swedish souvenirs, including various sizes of Dala horse, along with restaurants that serve traditional Swedish food. In December it hosts the annual St. Lucia festival with a local young lady dressed as St. Lucia serving traditional drink and cookies to visitors at the downtown festival. Swedish dancers also provide entertainment on main street. This year the Kansas Betas took a trip to Lindsborg to enjoy the food, music, dancing and of course some shopping. The town also hosts other events to honor their heritage throughout the year. If you want to experience this intriguing and unique town during one of their many festivals, Lindsborg is located 72 miles north of Wichita. But be sure and stop to pick up a couple of KS Beta sisters to join you as you travel through Wichita. They will eat, drink, shop and dance with you in this little piece of Sweden.



Sisters Brenda Thompson, Teresa Carter, and Tammy Cocannouer with Swedish Dala Horse.



LAWRENCE, KANSAS

THE FIERY BIRTH OF LAWRENCE, KANSAS: AN AREA OF HISTORICAL INTRIGUE

BY: KANSAS KAPPA CHAPTER

Lawrence, Kansas is an area of extraordinary historical intrigue and the birthplace of the Jayhawk legend. Founded in 1854 by the New England Emigrant Aid Company as an anti-slavery stronghold, Lawrence was established for a specific political purpose of influencing the future of Kansas Territory and preventing the expansion of slavery westward. It is considered one of only two cities in the United States founded primarily as a political project. The city quickly became the epicenter of "Bleeding Kansas," where Free-State Jayhawkers clashed with pro-slavery forces in a violent struggle that foreshadowed the American Civil War.

As the unofficial Free-State capital, Lawrence became a prime target for pro-slavery raiders. During the Sacking of Lawrence on May 21, 1858, the town was looted and the Free State Hotel burned. The attack enraged abolitionist John Brown, fueling the retaliatory violence that shaped his later raid on Harpers Ferry and further escalating the conflict over slavery.

The violence reached its peak on August 21, 1863, when Confederate guerrilla William Quantrill led the Lawrence Massacre, burning much of the town and killing about 150 civilian men and boys. Rather than abandon the city, survivors immediately began rebuilding homes, businesses, churches, and schools, transforming the devastated settlement into a symbol of determination and resilience.

Lawrence's remarkable recovery from repeated destruction cemented the Jayhawk as a lasting symbol of courage, freedom, and perseverance. Even today, the fierce Erivalry between the University of Kansas Jayhawks and the University of Missouri Tigers reflects more than athletic competition as the rivalry traces its roots to the violent border conflict of Bleeding Kansas and the Civil War era.

Lawrence's resilience and rebuilding have made the city an enduring symbol of freedom and one of America's most compelling places to explore the origins of the Civil War and the legacy of the Jayhawkers.

The image below, courtesy of the Lawrence Police Department, depicts a phoenix rising from the flames to immortality—a fitting symbol of Lawrence itself. Twice devastated by violence, the city repeatedly rose from the ashes stronger than before, embodying the resilience, determination, and enduring spirit that continue to define Lawrence today.



LAKE SHAWNEE

A PLACE OF INTRIGUE IN TOPEKA

BY: KANSAS ALPHA CHAPTER

Created as a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project during the New Deal to provide jobs & public recreation this manmade lake covers 416 acres with a maximum depth of 52 feet. It is approximately 7 miles to complete the walk around the lake. It took approximately 4 years to construct.

Lake Shawnee offers a multitude of recreational and tranquil adventures. As you wander through the 37.5-acre garden area, through the well shaded garden area you may notice a variety of flowers, plants and trees, a lovely Asian inspired structure where musical concerts are performed, and a gazebo-a venue that many choose for their wedding, a water fountain and a covered bridge. Lake Shawnee also hosts an annual Tulip Festival in The Ted Ensley Garden, and an enormous 4th of July fireworks display – free of charge. The garden has been noted by numerous visitors as 'world class.

Lake Shawnee has campsites with plans for adding cabins. There is an Adventure Cove, beach swimming area, pedal boats, kayaks, water skiing, sail and motor boating, fishing (with a heated dock for your use in the winter months), 18-hole golf course, disc golf, softback, baseball & soccer fields, hiking and biking trails, multiple shelter houses with playgrounds, basketball, pickle ball & tennis courts, and a dog park. These amenities provide residents and visitors with opportunities to enjoy the outdoors, relax and embrace visiting one of many intriguing places in the capital city of Kansas – Topeka.



LITTLE BOHEMIA

A BUSINESS DISTRICT IN OMAHA, NEBRASKA

BY: NEBRASKA ETA CHAPTER

Little Bohemia is a business district in downtown Omaha mostly located along 13th Street from Pierce to Hickory Streets. The area was first established in the 1860s during a period of mass immigration by Czech people due to the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The area bloomed, and the people living there established self-sufficiency through the building patterns in the area. Most lots are established with a residence on the back half of the lot and a commercial business on the front-half. This kept a lot of the Czech people and culture confined to the area, since there was very little need to leave it. The area contained food, shopping, and churches, all catering to the Czech people and their styles and tastes. One landmark building of the area is the now in-operational Prague Hotel, a nineteenth century, three-story building featuring Renaissance Revival influences.

Another feature of the area was the Bohemian Cafe. A family-owned restaurant that served Czech food to the area for 92 years before its closure in 2016. The space it occupied is now a soda fountain-style restaurant and bar. While businesses and residences have changed hands over the years, the area of town is still thriving while continually recognizing and honoring its Czech roots.

PLACES OF INTRIGUE IN MISSOURI

BY: MISSOURI DELTA CHAPTER



This is the only site in the United States dedicated only to World War I. Soon after the war ended, a group of 40 prominent Kansas City residents formed an association to create a memorial to those who had served in the war.Groundbreaking took place on November 1, 1921 and the finished monument was dedicated on November 11, 1926. On December 19, 2014, President Obama signed legislation which resulted in the redesignation of the entire site as the National World War I Museum and Memorial. There are many exhibitions with period artifacts.

The Kansas City Monarchs are a professional baseball team based in Kansas City, Kansas. Formerly known as the Kansas City T-Bones, they are members of the American Association of Professional Baseball, which, in 2020, was designated as a Major League Baseball partner league. Enjoy going to the Monarchs baseball games, and having the baseball stadium in the area is such a joy!

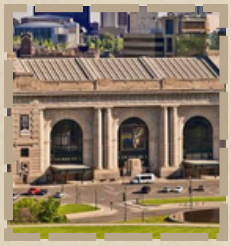
Knuckleheads Saloon is one of Kansas City's most iconic and respected independent live music venues, located in the historic East Bottoms district. Known for its gritty, authentic atmosphere and commitment to live music, Knuckleheads has grown organically from a local hangout into a nationally recognized destination for touring artists and music fans.



One of only 16 official U.S. Presidential Libraries in the United States, the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum celebrates the life and legacy of America's 33rd President. The museum houses millions of pages of documents, photographs, films, artifacts and interactive exhibits chronicling the life and presidency of the "Man from Independence." The Truman Library is one of Independence's most significant historical attractions.



The 18th & Vine District is one of the most fascinating areas of Kansas City because it represents the intersection of history, culture, music, sports, and community resilience. The district is internationally recognized as one of the birthplaces of jazz and helped shape the distinctive Kansas City jazz sound that launched legends such as Charlie Parker and Count Basie. Walking through the area, you can feel the influence of the musicians, clubs, and jam sessions that helped define an era of American music.



Originally opened in 1914, it serves Kansas City, Missouri, and the surrounding metropolitan area. In 1985, it closed, but through a public-private partnership, it was restored and reopened. Through other renovations, it has theaters, ongoing museum exhibits, and attractions such as Science City, the Irish Museum and Cultural Center, and the Todd Bolender Center for Dance and Creativity. More recently, it is now a stop for the KC Streetcar.

INTRIGUING ADVENTURES

BY: TAMMIE COCANNOUER
ELECTRA PROVINCE PRESIDENT
N.E.S.T

This year seems to be going by so quickly, and summer is almost over! I enjoy traveling, and one of my goals when planning my trips is to find at least three new experiences: go somewhere I've never been, try a new restaurant or food, and do something I've never done—or haven't done in a long time.

This year, I ended up in Florida visiting my sister. While I was there, I enjoyed dinner at a Greek restaurant, tried grouper for the first time, and even spent some time just lounging by the pool reading a book. If you know me, you know I don't usually just laze around!



KS Beta Colorado Trip

As I think back to all the places that our sorority and my sisters have taken me, I realize what a fun and intriguing adventure it has been. Remember the bus trips to Fort Dodge and Des Moines, and all the good stories we shared along the way? What about the trips to celebrate a chapter's Founder's Day? We've had "shop 'til you drop" weekends and even a "virgin" trip to Colorado, where each of us had to find something we had never done or somewhere we had never been.

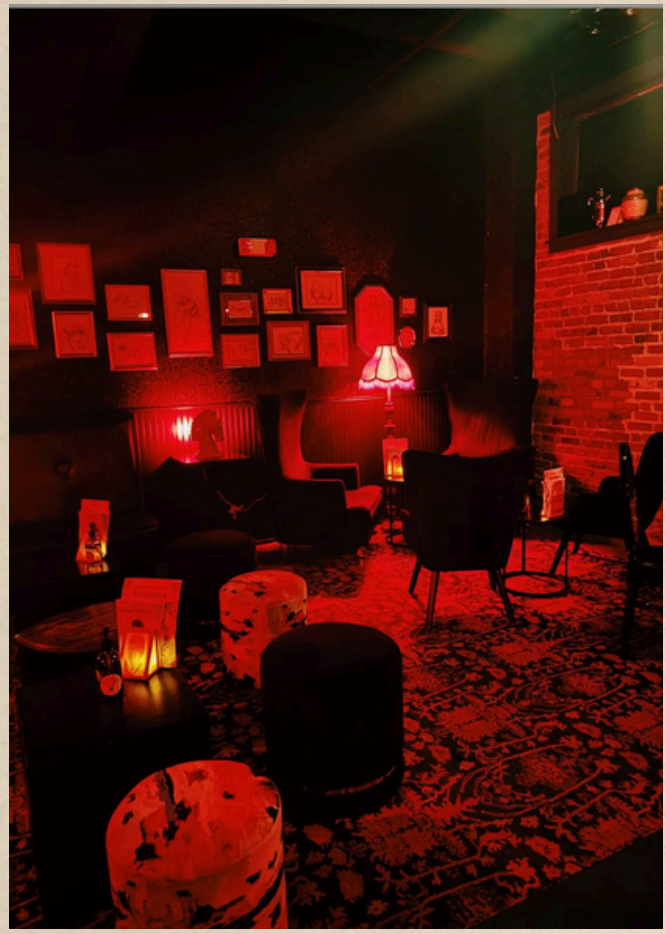
These memories are just a few of the many experiences that make our sisterhood so special. The friendships we build, the laughter we share, the stories we tell, and the hugs we exchange are what make Delta Theta Chi more than just a sorority—they make it a sisterhood filled with memories that last a lifetime.

As we get closer to Conclave, I want to encourage as many of you as possible to attend and share in our unique and intriguing sisterhood. I know it will be a wonderful time in Ottawa, Kansas, filled with laughter, stories, new memories, and plenty of hugs.

I can't wait to see what each chapter has come up with for the Educational Contest and to see how many new sisters we initiate that weekend. I look forward to seeing each of you and making more memories together!



KS Alpha Founder's Day 2026



ANNA'S PLACE

A SPEAKEASY-STYLE LOUNGE
OMAHA, NEBRASKA

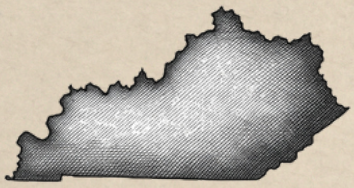
BY: JULIA OURECKY
ELECTRA PROVINCE, EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR

As a person who enjoys going out, but doesn't drink, I'm always looking for a place with a little more "something" to it than a regular bar – history, theming, ambiance, intrigue, or a mocktail menu. The location I chose to write about has all of those, and for me it especially has intrigue, as it is somewhere I have not yet had the pleasure of visiting myself. Anna's Place is a speakeasy-style lounge located in downtown Omaha named after pioneer brothel madam Anna Wilson.

Wilson (born in 1835) and her partner, Dan Allen, took in and cared for prostitutes when they had no one else; including paying for the weddings of those who got married within their care. Wilson later became involved in real estate, where she made much of her money. Through her business ventures she was able to build a 25-room mansion that she used as a brothel. At the time of her passing in 1911, she donated the building to the city of Omaha, along with her life savings. It became the Omaha Emergency Hospital and was used as a communicable- disease treatment center until it was raised in the 1940's.

Anna's Place speakeasy is currently located in the Hotel Indigo downtown, but will be moving later this summer to the Old Market. The speakeasy operates on a red-light-green-light entry system. A light outside of the speakeasy lets you know if there is room inside or not: a green light means you may knock on the door to be admitted entry, while a red light means the lounge is full and to come back and try again at a different time. The space inside is designed to be an intimate atmosphere with low lighting and specialty cocktails.





SHOP HOP

KENTUCKY & TENNESSEE

BY: CATHIE BARBER
ELECTRA PROVINCE VICE PRESIDENT
ELECTRA PROVINCE NATIONAL TRUSTEE



There are just way too many places of intrigue in my new location, but I am partial to waterfalls. Fortunately, around Kentucky and Tennessee, there is an abundance of places to visit.

However, it is soooo warm and extremely humid, so I have been staying home other than visiting various stores on the All Kentucky & Tennessee Shop Hop!

I am excited to get the quilt put together of the quilt blocks from the stores that have them. So I will be staying in and quilting for a couple of months after the shop hops are done.

Of course, whenever I get the opportunity, I talk about Sorority with some of the ladies I meet at the various stores. How else are we to let people know about sorority.

A quick reminder that every chapter needs to turn in your chapter minutes. That is how the NEC and your Province Board keep up with all the goings on.

