

2 0 0 9 E D I T I O N

# the ALUMNI newsletter

ONCE A BROTHER, ALWAYS A BROTHER OF ALPHA PHI OMEGA RHO PI



*Welcome!*

*Hello APO Alumni! I'm your Alumni Secretary :)*

*I'm really looking forward in meeting you and start setting up some events!*

*Please feel free to suggest anything you like by sending me an email or chat with me on AIM! I'll try my best to make it happen.*

*Jeannie Ong*



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*Prepared by Jeannie Ong, Alumni Secretary*

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## Lemon Sugar Cookies

*Here's a recipe for cookies that you could bake for yourself! Or if you come to my events or GBM's I might bake them for YOU! :D*

- 2 eggs
- 2/3 cup oil
- 2 tsp vanilla
- 1 tbsp grated lemon peel
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 2 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp salt

Beat eggs well, add oil, vanilla, lemon peels and blend in sugar. Sift flour, baking powder and salt, then add it to the egg mix.

Bake cookies 8-10 min in 400 degree oven on a cookie sheet. Makes 36 cookies.





# Introduction

Greetings! This is your Alumni Secretary! Some of you may know who I am, but there are those that don't, so let me introduce myself!

## *The basics*

I am currently a 4th year majoring in Biochemistry/Cell Biology with a minor in Chinese Studies from Thurgood Marshall College. My future plans are to graduate next year as a 5th year and hopefully get accepted to Pharmacy school.

I pledged APO my first quarter at UCSD in Fall 2005, Alpha Beta Class. I'm from Omega family and some of you know my line as the OCD line! That's me and my big sis, Jayne Hsu at my sib reveal! (Hi Jayne!)



## *Just the beginning*

So what are some of the ideas and plans I have in mind? Well, I hope to set up some fun fellowships that I hope you will come out to and meet our new actives. I am very open to new ideas so if you want a sushi dinner or a bowling night, I'll try to make it happen.

I'd love to start Alumni Interviews at GBMs again

because I thought it was awesome for the general body to meet you and learn about your experiences. I might not be as funny as Miller two years ago, but I'll try to make it fun.

Let me know about anything I can do to best serve you and it can be just about anything. I would love to meet each of you so please feel free to contact me. Let me know you're in town and I might just bake you some cookies (hint hint for you to come out).



Email me at [Jeannie.Ong@gmail.com](mailto:Jeannie.Ong@gmail.com) or talk to me on AIM at JeanniexOng. Talk to you soon!

# Message from the President

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Howdy alumni,

Yes, I'm still here! I want to first apologize for not getting out the other alumni newsletters I was aiming for last year. I will get them out once my term as President is over this year.



The school year started out rocky. As many of you know, we were low in funds due to a lack of fundraisers that we normally expect to get for Petco Park. The recession also has added to the tough economic times of the fraternity, particularly when we attempt to get donations from other organizations. We were forced to raise dues, but we have managed to do most of the things we normally do with the funds we have. With some generous donations from Jerry Schroeder (Fall 05 Namesake), and Rho Pi alumni Roy Poomiwatracanont, Lori Kennington, Bella and John Cenzano-Fong, and an alumnus from the Chartering class (who wishes to remain anonymous), Rho Pi was able to send Jennifer Phan, Eunice Yu, Phuong Huynh, Kent Lee and Cindy Tung to Boston for the APO National Conference in Boston on December 27, 2008. Thank you for your generosity!

This year, we have attempted to make a bigger emphasis on service.

- (1) Pledges in the Fall quarter were required to do at least one hour of service from each of our four fields and to work in smaller groups to plan a project (in addition to their pledge class service project)
- (2) Pledges in the Winter quarter were required to be a part of service committee
- (3) We participated in Adopt-A-Family to bring thanksgiving to 2 needy families.
- (4) Operation Santa expanded to helping more families
- (5) Our service officers Mallory Wang and Tiffany Luong initiated the first ever Rho Pi Hunger Banquet on Jan 24, 2009, where we bring awareness to college students of social injustice and hunger that's widespread in developing countries. At the same time, proceeds for the event went towards OXFAM international. I believe this was our first "large scale" winter quarter service project ever, as opposed to just National Service Week (Fall) and Youth Service Day (Spring).
- (6) Rho Pi won the Outstanding Chapter of Service award from Section 2!
- (7) Instead of having the usual Kids Fair this year at North park, our service officers are organizing a similar project called R.E.C.E.S.S. which has a special focus on encouraging children to go to college. The project will take place at an elementary school on Claremont Mesa/Genessee Ave called Field Elementary school. We will also be organizing a field trip for the 6<sup>th</sup> graders at the school to visit UCSD sometime in late May or early June.

Also, we have focused on trying to get our name out more:

1. We worked with other campus organizations such as Chi Gamma Phi (community service sorority that held a bone marrow drive on campus), Amnesty International, Voces y Manos and STANDUP (to assist our OXFAM Hunger banquet), and we have a few other orgs we plan to work with for R.E.C.E.S.S.
2. A workshop at the National convention discussed the importance of APO to form a relationship with the University and its administrators. As a result, I met up with the Chancellor of UCSD, Marye Anne Fox back in January to invite her to speak at our Sectionals Conference earlier this month and to find out how APO could help UCSD. She re-directed me to the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, Penny Rue, who suggested that we help put on a dance marathon on campus. It is something she really wants to become a tradition at UCSD to help boost spirit on campus due to the lack of a solid sports foundation to rally around. We realize later that Student Foundation is already working on a dance marathon this May and we have made contact with them to help them out. Their dance marathon is offering to name a scholarship after an organization that raises the most money so we will attempt to get a scholarship called the "Alpha Phi Omega scholarship"!
3. We formed a formal partnership with Field Elementary school. This relationship has HUGE potential to improve the reputation and publicity of Rho Pi. Our name will be associated with a school in the SD Unified School District, we will be known among the PTA, and the principal has connections with people that work for the Claremont newsletter! Hopefully Rho Pi will expand on this relationship and eliminate the stigma of APO as just like any other fraternity.

Overall, we've made some significant strides in Rho Pi on the bigger scale, namely the focus on service and improving/expanding our reputation on campus as well as the community. Additionally, we are attempting to win the Chapter of excellence and Pledge Program of excellence awards at the APO National level and the Outstanding Student Org/Outstanding Service Org SOLO awards at UCSD. It'll be really exciting for Rho Pi if we were to win these awards this year to add on to our other accomplishments!

Please drop by our R.E.C.E.S.S. event on April 25<sup>th</sup>, especially if you have kids of your own. Also, if you would be interested in participating in the Dance Marathon to help raise money for Rho Pi so that we can get a scholarship named after us next year, please let me know! My e-mail address is [m3huang@ucsd.edu](mailto:m3huang@ucsd.edu) and my AIM name is MiLLRTiME7. You can also find me on facebook.

I hope all is well with you alumni. Please let me know if you have ANY questions/comments about Rho Pi, even after I leave office as President.

iLFS,

millertime

# Section 2 News Update

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## *A Message from Rho Pi's Scouting Advisor, Kent Lee*

Greetings Rho Pi alumni! I hope this finds you well. I have some exciting news on the state of Section 2 of Alpha Phi Omega. Starting from the leadership of former Section Chairs Annie Wang and David Wilson (both brothers of Rho Pi), and now continued by the stewardship of our current Section Chair Jeremy Thacker, Section 2 has seen a remarkable amount of growth in the last two years.

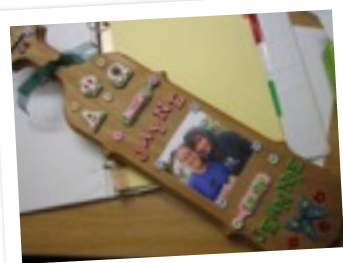
In these last few years, we have been excited by the addition of what will soon be four chapters in our Section! Notably, two of these chapters chartered in the past year – Alpha Delta Chapter at San Diego State University as well as Sigma Beta Chapter at the University of Redlands. Additionally, our petitioning group at the Omega Sigma Chapter at Cal-State Fullerton has tentatively scheduled their rechartering ceremony for Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Even in the last six months, we have picked one more potential chapter that is already in the petitioning group stage with over 30 petitioning members. I know this chapter has excited a number of individuals across the region because it is forming at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Of course, good news often comes with some bad news as well, as Section 2 has also lost one chapter in the past year – Eta Eta at Arizona State University.

As always, Alpha Phi Omega thrives because of the volunteer leadership provided by students, alumni, and even general community members. Therefore, if you would like to volunteer with Alpha Phi Omega in any capacity as an alumni (whether it is to participate in an occasional event or to take a role in planning at the Section level), please let us know. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions!

Sincerely,  
Kent Lee  
Vice-Chair, Section 2



# Upcoming Events & News

It's almost the end of the year since we're in our Spring Quarter now. That means a lot of exciting and special events are coming up. Spring is when Rho Pi hosts the biggest and best events of the entire year.

Not only that, but Spring Quarter marks the academic transition of when active members from the general body, become Alumni. Get ready, get set, newly celebrated Alumni, coming your way.

## DATES TO REMEMBER!

**APRIL 25**  
RECESS  
also known as  
Kid's Fair

**MAY 24**  
5th Annual  
Dance Comp

**MAY 30**  
End-of-the-year  
Banquet

**MAY 31**  
Last GBM

## R.E.C.E.S.S.



You may know it as Kid's Fair but we're giving it a new name. R.E.C.E.S.S. stands for "Reaching Every Child Expanding Student Success". We're focusing on the theme of higher education and encouraging kids to go to college.

[service@aporhopi.org](mailto:service@aporhopi.org)

## DANCE COMP

Ready for a dance competition that showcases the excellent dance moves from different chapters?

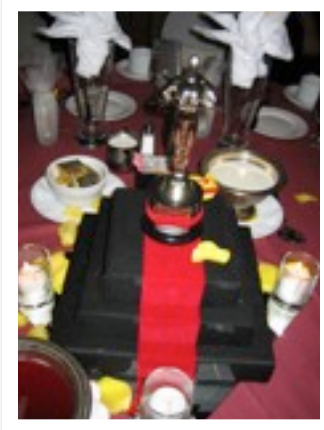


There will be both competitive teams and exhibition. The great thing is, it's for charity!

## BANQUET

It's almost time to celebrate another successful service-filled Rho Pi year. Join us at the end of the year banquet that will be filled with entertainment and celebration.

[planthefun@aporhopi.org](mailto:planthefun@aporhopi.org)



# Alumni Walking Stick

The coveted Alumni Walking Stick. It is similar to the Leonardo but on the almighty Alumni scale. It is passed on each month from an Alumnus to a fellow Alpha Phi Omega Alumnus. The recipient decides on the receiver and composes a short speech about the receiver. This encourages alumni to come attend General Body Meetings, however since many alumni move away from San Diego, a photo of both is requested along with a speech. I wonder who will get it next!

## *Buu Huynh by Jeff Ly*



There are two words that pop in my head when I hear alumni staff. Those two words are Buu Huynh. She's an alumni, who had served Rho Pi as a pledge, active, and Membership Secretary, and she's a staff because she represents leadership and poise. I'm cool because I met Ms. Huynh before she joined APO through Marshall College. She pledged alone, looking to network, and she networked. She's has a passion for people, and that helped our fraternity stay connected and simply fun. Big ups to Buu for making people laugh. I think that's hard to do, but someone has to do it. Thank you Buu for your service to the fraternity through all the years.

## *Stella Evans by Buu Huynh*

When I first joined Alpha Phi Omega, it wasn't really for community service because to be honest, that's not the first thing I think of when I hear "fraternity". To me I came in hoping APhiO was going to help me forge friendships that would last me throughout college and beyond that. As the months passed and I got to meet more people, I started thinking, "okay maybe I was a little delusional thinking a fraternity was going to solve my friendship woes." But right around Winter Quarter 2007 (Alpha Epsilon pledge class), was when I met two inspirationally awesome people I like to call my BFFs. Tonight I'll be passing along this majestic Alumni Staff which I have created with the help of the lovely Alumni Sec Ms. Helena Li to one of my best friends. She's everything I am but better: Kind, Intelligent, Successful, and HOT. Without her, I think a part of my college life and even my dazzling personality, would not be the same as it is today. Some background info on her before you guys start clapping: She's an Alpha Alpha pledge from the best family ever ALPHA!! She's a part of the Sterling Dy-NASTY line and held the position of Admin Sec during the 2006-2007 Executive Board of APO. I'm presenting this Alumni Staff to my BFF, Ms. Stella Evans <3



## *Esther Choi by Stella Evans*



It was such a great honor to accept this giant walking stick as a token of appreciation for my membership in APO. Now as an alumna, looking back on my college years, my fondest and most memorable moments took place in this fraternity and my service and time spent here is a large part of who I have become today. If I could thank one person for providing me with the opportunity to gain such a great experience, it would be this fellow sister, alumna, and friend, that I pass the alumni staff on to today. If it weren't for this person I would have never even joined APO; it was her encouragement and passion to get involved that drove me to pledge. I remember during installation ceremony thinking, "What have I gotten myself into?!" But rather than backing out, this person assured me that we were in it together and would be there for each other throughout the pledging process (plus they had already took my installation check). Not only did we cross together but she also pushed me to go to as many community service events and fellowships as she did, and even encouraged me to run for e-board. APO truly is about gaining the experiences of leadership, fellowship, and service - three entities that this sister embodied even before pledging for this fraternity. I present this staff to former Alumni Secretary, Old Woman, Alpha Alpha Pledge Sister, and my best friend, Esther Choi.



Jeff Ly and Alyssa Lee



Esther Choi, Buu Huynh and Stella Evans

# Alumni Winter Events

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## ALPHA ETA & ALPHA IOTA NAMESAKE DINNER

The first Alumni event was set up by Cindy Tung and Jeff Ly. Cindy Tung is the pledge class namesake for Winter 08, Alpha Eta. Jeff Ly is the pledge class namesake for Winter 09, Alpha Iota. These two namesakes decided on a competition on who's pledge class will show more pride and representation at a dinner. Set in Convoy, the namesakes wanted dinner at Yoshinoya and to make things interesting, you could not spend more than \$5 on a meal. Looks like Cindy brought out the most people and Jonathan Lee came out for some yummy Beef Bowl.



## ALUMNI MIXER DINNER

The second event was just a chance for Alumni, actives and pledges to have dinner and mingle with each other. Upon hearing that Gordon Biersch Brewery Restaurant serves delicious garlic fries, that was the place to be. With great music, great food, and great company, nothing could go wrong. Some of our special guests include Amy Hou, Dan Leitner, Huy Ly, Jason Nunag, Alan Bautista, Cindy Tung, Jonathan Lee, and William Patrick Gabriel. William actually drove all the way from Los Angeles to have dinner with us!



# Alpha Theta and Alpha Iota Class

*Remember the days of pledging? Well a few things have changed but learning the lessons and the feelings of pledging remain the same...*

## ALPHA THETA CLASS, ADRIENNE CHONG



Adrienne Chong and her big Amy Lai

Hi, I'm Adrienne Chong from the Fall 2008 Alpha Theta pledge class.

Although our class was smaller than most pledge classes with an initial size

of 41. I initially thought

that it would be difficult to get to know my pledge brothers. During the quarter, though, our pledge class did become closer in order to overcome struggles such as fundraising for our debt and planning showcase. Showcase really brought out the best in people, since we all put in our best effort to plan it and pull it off. Showcase, rehearsals for showcase, and the pledge service project were the most memorable experiences for me since these were toward the end of the quarter. It was pretty amazing to see people step out of their shell. Looking back, I really cherish the pledging experience with my fellow Alpha Theta brothers since we had quite a wide range of personalities that meshed very well. There's nothing like Alpha Theta (brotherly) love!

## ALPHA IOTA CLASS, ALICE HO

Hi, I'm Alice Ho, president of winter 2009 Alpha Iota class!

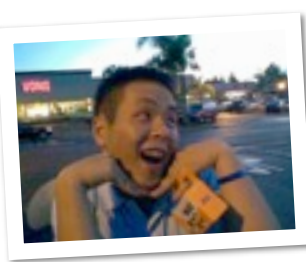
During our quarter of pledging, there were many times where we were able to have fun and bond with the fraternity but also times

where we suffered some hardship that eventually helped to

strengthen our class bond as a whole. One of our main challenges was showcase because we had to work together in groups to find time to practice and film the videos. Additionally, a brother had to be appointed co-showcase chair because of a DP. However, we were able to pull it through and put on what was hopefully an entertaining showcase. Among other things, we were also able to get each pledge to attend the Pledge Service Project and to participate in a pledge fundraiser to help our debt. I must admit that sometimes it was very frustrating and stressful to make sure that everyone was doing their share; however, through the experience, I learned something from each one of my pledge brothers. Though the pledging process is over, many memories were made that I believe each Iota will cherish.



Alice Ho and pledge brother LanPhi Nguyen



# Fall Quarter Family Comp Stats



**RHO FAMILY**  
Congratulations to  
Kristen Ballungay & Sandy Mach  
for leading the family!



**Omega**  
Amy Lai & Lucy Huang



**Phi**

Jennie Kayasone,  
Siyun Yao  
& Joel Hua



**Pi**

Wendy Nguyen  
& Jennifer Ye



**Alpha**

Nikki Bui,  
Kelvin Huang,  
& Russell Villasenor

## TOP SERVICE DOERS!

Sara Stapelbroek



Sandy Mach

Kristen Ballungay

Diana Wu

Amy Lai

Laetitia Truong

Pamela Tisuthiwongse

Jennifer Carillo

Lisa Iwasaki

Michael Chan

## TOP FELLOWSHIP FRIENDS!

Miller Huang

Jeff Quizon

Siyun Yao

Jason Chow

Christan Mastorakis

Jonathan Chang

Kimberly Hunter

Christy Vong

Wilson Phan

Michael Chan

# Operation Santa Spotlight

## EUNICE YU, OPERATION SANTA PROJECT COORDINATOR



This quarter we got to continue with our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual holiday project, Operation Santa.

Last year was the first year we created this project and we got to help out 2 families in San Diego by providing them with gifts during the holiday. This year is different from last year, but the goal of Operation Santa has remained the same, but has expanded from what it was last year.

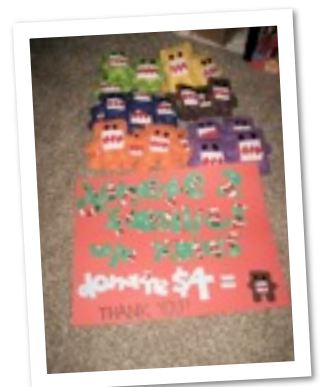
We actually got started really early this year and started planning in August. This year our goal was to help out four families, which was double the amount of the families last year. Also, we decided to do small side projects such as fleece tie pillow making workshops and Domokun (a Japanese doll)



making workshops. These side projects were seen as ways to contribute to the community because the products were donated to local charities such as the Salvation Army. We thought it was a great idea to expand from just helping families to also providing local organizations with gifts made from love. As a committee, we planned four fundraisers this quarter to raise money for the gifts and materials for our side projects, which were fundraisers at Souplantation, Rubios fundraiser, gift-wrapping at Barnes and Nobles, and donation tabling at Sierra Summit.

When we were selecting the families, we decided to go through SAY San Diego, which is a local nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting the positive development of young people, their families and communities in San Diego County. We felt that they were a really good organization to work with since they deal with a lot of programs that help out youth and families. A majority of the families that we got tended to be single parent families that had some financial need during this holiday season.

Many times during the quarter, we were somewhat scared that we could not meet the deadline to finish all these things. The domokuns was the hardest time commitment because we made all the dolls from scratch and it took about half an hour to make one! We made about 100 domokuns in a variety of colors: brown, blue, orange, blue, purple, and yellow. I actually got the idea of making domokuns from Fall Fellowship because Rho Gamma (Cal State Long Beach) was doing a similar project. We used the domokuns as thank you gifts for people that donated 4 dollars or more as a way to get donations for Operation Santa by tabling at Sierra Summit for 3 hours everyday for a span of 3 days. The donation tabling was rather successful since it caught a lot of students' eyes and we also gave them information on what our project was about and the families that they would be helping. I felt that it was very rewarding experience to do the donation tables because we got to share with our campus on what we were doing in the community.



## OPERATION SANTA SPOTLIGHT (CONTINUED)

We actually finished Operation Santa a lot earlier this year because we delivered the gifts during the end of finals week. This year, it was different since we were working with SAY San Diego and we actually did not get to see the families' reactions to the gifts. Instead, we actually got a lot of praise from the organization because we were the **ONLY** Greek organization that participated in Adopt-A-Family with



them this year. They were really appreciative of everything that we provided and were very amazed that we had such dedicated members that were into helping the community. There was a similar reaction at Salvation Army when we donated the domokuns and pillows to them. We had about half the domokuns left over from donation tabling and we decided to also donate the rest to Salvation Army along with the pillows. Salvation Army was impressed that we made gifts and that we actually filled up their whole donation box and then some when we arrived.

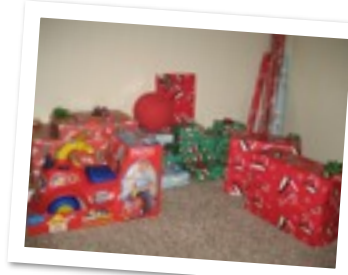
I felt that being coordinator for this year's Operation Santa was a very rewarding experience because it did focus on our four fields of service: fraternity, campus, community, and country. The reason why I feel like the project has expanded to that is because we earned a small profit from this project that we are planning to donate the profit to the Service program, which helps out our fraternity.

The service to the campus is when we were informing the campus on what we were doing and also they got a piece of what our goal of community service was. For community, we got to help our four families in San Diego for this holiday season. For country, we got to donate the pillows and domokuns to Salvation Army. I am proud to say that we have accomplished our goal of Operation Santa and so much more and that I expect Operation Santa to continue being a major and rewarding project to the fraternity and to the community of San Diego.



I would love to give special thanks to my committee members: Eric Ting, Briana Ly, Elliot Hung, Diana Wu, Jeannie Ong, Olivia Truong; the service team for their help and guidance: Tiffany Luong and Mallory Wang, and definitely to all those people that came out to support us. Without

Gift wrapped toys for the families!



Alumni Sec offering Domokuns for donations



# Winter Quarter Family Competition



**1** OMEGA FAMILY  
Congratulations to  
Andrew Liang & Jamie Yan



**2** Rho  
Indira Villasana & Tracy Wong



**3**  
Phi

Long Trang  
& Kelley Yee



**4**  
Alpha

George Arau  
& Mina Kwan



**5**  
Pi

Christine Chang,  
Keith Au,  
& Annie Chen

## TOP SERVICE DOERS!

Sara Stapelbroek

Miller Huang

Tiffany Luong

Laetitia Truong

Jonathan Chang

Diana Wu

James Nguyen

Adrienne Chong

Jennifer Carillo

Mindy Trang



## TOP FELLOWSHIP FRIENDS!

Diana Wu

James Nguyen

Lance Bareng

Jeff Quizon

Adrienne Chong

Elliot Seeto

Miller Huang

Louis Vo

Jonathan Chang

Jamie Yan

# *Credits and Thanks*

Thank you to my Winter Quarter committee that consisted of one member, Diana Wu, my great granddittle.

Thank you Cindy Tung and Jeff Ly for the Namesake dinner.

Thank you Eunice Yu for setting up Operation Santa.

Thank you Kent Lee and Miller Huang for your updates.

Thank you Helena for being there to support me and guide me into this position. I'm so sorry for all those emails that asked so many questions about the alumni walking stick.

Thank you Buu Huynh, Stella Evans, and Esther Choi for passing the alumni walking stick along and keeping it alive.

Thank you Membership team, Jon Chang and Christy Vong for providing the quarterly statistics.

Thank you Huy Ly, Jason Nunag, Amy Hou, Dan Leitner, and Alan Bautista for attending the Gordon Biersch Dinner.

Thank you Will Patrick Gabriel for driving all the way to San Diego just to have Extraordinary Desserts without me. Just kidding! :) Go Shuttles!

Thank you Jonathan Lee for supporting me and coming out to both namesake dinner and the Gordon Bierch Dinner.

Thank you Natasha Young for your awesome project of compiling Rho Pi's complete history and our long email chats in the middle of the night.

Thank you Alice Ho for being one of the first people that turned in their fantastic articles.

Thank you Kent Lee for being my first Alumni Interview Guest.

Thank you Angie Koo for giving your time to those who are pre-pharmacy (like myself) to answer their questions and concerns.

Thank you Richard Chung for donating your APO paraphernalia.

Thank you Daryl Sterling Jr for creating the Section 2 Conference website! It's beautiful.

Credit for photos goes to me, Facebook, Eunice Yu, Cindy Tung, and Alpha Phi Omega.

This newsletter was made by Pages, 