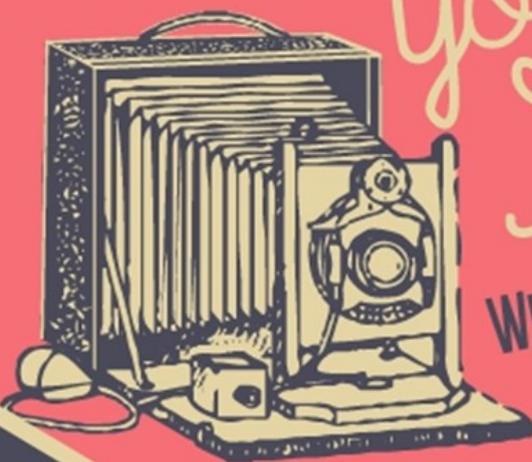


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yourself  
Dreek*



**WEST LIBERTY UNIVERSITY**



*Panhellenic Recruitment Fall 2015*

# Sorority Terms

Here are some of the most common terms you'll hear while learning about sorority life !

**Active:** A collegiate, initiated member of a sorority chapter.

**Badge:** An insignia of fraternity or sorority membership worn by initiated members. Each sorority has its badge.

**Bid Day:** The last day of recruitment, when potential new members receive bids to join chapters and become new members. Each chapter will usually host a Bid Day activity to help the new members get to know each other and the rest of the chapter, like bowling. The Unanimous Agreements state that there is to be no alcohol use or men associated with recruitment or Bid Day.

**Big sister:** An active member of a chapter who is paired with a new member as a mentor.

**College Panhellenic Council:** A council for all of the National Panhellenic Conference sorority chapters on a campus. This council serves as the governing body for all NPC chapters on campus and organizes the recruitment process. Each chapter chooses a delegate to sit on its College Panhellenic council.

**Continuous Open Bidding (COB):** An opportunity for chapters that do not reach quota during primary recruitment to bid to total and/or quota. The continuous open bidding process is less formal, and not all chapters will participate in continuous open bidding.

**Initiation:** A traditional ceremony that brings a new member into full membership of a sorority or fraternity.

**Legacy:** A daughter, sister or granddaughter of an initiated member of a sorority. Typically, different groups have different definitions of legacies. Being a legacy does not guarantee a bid to a particular sorority. Each inter/national organization has its own policy for invitations to legacies during recruitment

**New member:** A person who has accepted a bid from a sorority but is not yet an active member of that chapter. Chapters will have some sort of new member process during which the new members learn more about the sorority and prepare them for initiation.

**Potential new member (PNM):** A woman who is eligible to participate in recruitment. On campuses that hold deferred recruitment during second semester, chapters might use the term PNM to refer to any woman eligible for recruitment.

**Quota:** The number of potential new members to which each chapter can offer bids during formal recruitment. This is determined with a formula involving the number of chapters and the number of women participating in bid matching.



# Dear Potential New Member,

As I look back on my experience three years ago as a potential new member navigating the recruitment process, I cannot help but to smile. I had no intention of rushing in high school, but felt drawn to the amazing sorority women I met throughout my first few weeks at West Liberty. So I decided to give it a try. And, boy am I glad I did! I now cannot imagine my collegiate career without sorority.

It is an overwhelming time in your collegiate life: not only are you going through recruitment, but you are still adjusting to the college, getting moved into your room, finding friends, and figuring out West Lib academics. For me, sorority only aided the transition. Sure, the four days of formal recruitment may be stressful, but the rewards were so much more: a support system of women who would be there for me, a source of an academic support, a place to belong and call home, and the beginning of what I know will be lifelong friendships. But the process can be daunting. I am the first in my family to go Greek, so I had no idea what to expect going into recruitment. Use this handbook and journal as a guide to the process and a place for you to record your first impressions of each chapter.

I don't have any earth-shatteringly genius advice: just to trust the process and to trust yourself. I found myself befuddled on preference night, with one chapter outweighing what was my previous top choice sorority. What I can say is there is no bad choice! Every sorority on campus embodies what a true Greek experience should be. Enjoy the process, make friends with your Rho Gamma group and leaders, be yourself, and trust that everything happens for a reason!



"So... be your name Buxbaum or Bixby or Bray  
or Mordecai Ali Van Allen O'Shea,  
you're off to Great Places!  
Today is your day!  
Your new home is waiting.  
So... get on your way!"



Please do not hesitate to reach out with questions or just for a hand to hold. I assure you there is a team of people ready to answer your call.

Interfraternally,



Mollie Phillis

VP of Recruitment

## What is a Rho Gamma?

The term "Rho Gamma" stands for Recruitment Guide, and thus is a friend to whom you can tell anything in confidence throughout your recruitment journey. Rho Gammas were selected and trained to be leaders, mentors, and counselors. They have been through the recruitment process, both as a potential new member and as an active sorority woman. They have volunteered their talents, hearts, and listening ears to guide each PNM through the recruitment process. Please do not hesitate to reach out to these women for questions or support.

## My Rho Gamma is:

Name :

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone # :

\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail:

\_\_\_\_\_

# What is PanHellenic?



West Liberty PanHellenic Council is the governing organization of the sororities on campus. The PanHellenic Council is made up of the PanHellenic executive board (including President, Vice President, Recruitment Chair, Secretary, & Treasurer), chapter delegates (representatives from each chapter), and advisor, Kate Billings who is also Campus Activities Coordinator & Greek Life Advisor. Together, they plan and facilitate recruitment, write and approve PanHellenic policy, host philanthropic and sisterhood events, provide support to the PanHellenic community, and manage its public relations.

## Recruitment Advice from PanHellenic Exec Board

**Shelby Cronin**

**President**



"Recruitment may seem overwhelming, but don't stress yourself out. In the end, you will end up where you're meant to be!"

**Courtney Layhew**

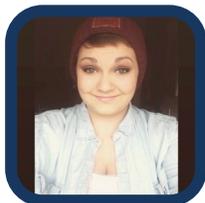
**Vice President**



"Going Greek has been a positive impact in my life in so many ways. I have gained many friends and sisters that have made my experience at West Liberty 100% better."

**Holly Chiles**

**Treasurer**



"My best advice for anyone going through recruitment is to have an open mind about all of the sororities. You might come in thinking you want to join a specific sorority, but then realize during recruitment that they might not be the best fit for you - so don't be afraid to change your mind!"

**Danielle Flading**

**Secretary**



"Joining a sorority was the best decision I made in college. So follow your heart and go where you feel most at home."

# Rho Gammas

Here is some info & fun facts about our Rho Gammas that will be helping you throughout the recruitment process this fall!

## Nancy Isner



**Major:** Mathematics and Chemistry

**Year:** Senior

**Hometown:** Grafton, West Virginia

**Why I went Greek:** I wanted to be more involved and participate more on campus also meet awesome people.

**Best part of recruitment:** Meeting new people

**Other Campus Involvement (Clubs/Org):** Soccer Club, Math Club, Chemistry Club, Chi Beta Phi

**Favorite part of West Liberty:** Suffering through college and studying with all my sisters.

## Jordan Lewis



**Major:** Elementary Education

**Year:** Sophomore

**Hometown:** Bridgeport, West Virginia

**Why I went Greek:** When I first came to West Liberty, I didn't know anyone. I went Greek to make friends and be a part of something bigger.

**Best part of recruitment:** The best part of recruitment was learning about each sorority and making friends with the girls in my group.

**Favorite part of West Liberty:** When the weather gets nice and everyone is out on the quad.

## Madison Hamby



**Major:** English

**Year:** Junior

**Hometown:** Wheeling, West Virginia

**Why I went Greek:** I went Greek to better my college experience.

**Best part of recruitment:** The best part of recruitment is getting to know your school and all the students within it that make a difference.

**Other Campus Involvement (Clubs/Org):** Print Making Club

**Favorite part of West Liberty:** My sorority

## Morgan Wagner



**Major:** Community Education

**Year:** Senior

**Hometown:** Colliers, West Virginia

**Why I went Greek:** I went Greek to make friends and become more involved on campus.

**Best part of recruitment:** All of the friends you make throughout Greek life.

**Other Campus Involvement (Clubs/Org):** Senator on SGA 2014-2015, Treasurer of Alpha Psi Omega, Resident Assistant, and a member of the Community Education Club.

**Favorite part of West Liberty:** My favorite part of West Liberty has been the friends I have made through all of my involvement on campus. They are truly my family and I would be lost without them.

## Jessica Reed



**Major:** Tourism and Event Planning

**Minor:** Entrepreneurship

**Year:** Senior

**Hometown:** Alma, West Virginia

**Why I went Greek:** I joined Greek life because I didn't really have a close relationship with my sisters growing up so when I came to school I didn't have very many friends on campus either and my roommate at the time got invited to meet a sorority on campus so I tagged along and hung out with those ladies and they made me realize that even though all these girls are different I could see a part of me in all of them, so I wanted to get to know them more.

**Best part of recruitment:** My favorite part of recruitment is getting to know all the new girls and to see the excitement on their faces when they received the bids from the sorority of their choice.

**Favorite part of West Liberty:** My favorite part of West Liberty is the fact that it is a small campus so it makes it easier for everyone on campus to be friends. It's different than most college where we can be friends with other people outside of the Greek community and outside of your sports team. This whole campus is one big family.

# Advice for a Successful Recruitment

**Remember** that sorority membership is for life and to make your own decision. It's your choice. Don't listen to your friends, your parents, your boyfriend, or other potential new members who have stereotyped the sororities. It is a privilege to be a part of a West Liberty University organization and each sorority requires high membership qualifications. Keep an open mind and be grateful for each invitation you receive. There are women who are just like you in every sorority.

**Eat Well** and get a good night's sleep. You want to be on your best game when meeting sorority women.

**Comments** should be kept to yourself. If you don't like a particular sorority, make sure that you are not basing your view on one woman you met in the sorority or on someone else's negative opinions. If you are still unsure of whether a particular sorority is for you, do not share your opinion with people besides your Rho Gamma. This should be a private decision. You never know when your least favorite choice could be your friend's favorite choice or last option.

**Unacceptable** behavior includes going out during the formal recruitment period. Sorority women do have fun, but they do not respect the idea of partying during one of the most important weeks for both you and the sorority members. Besides, the parties hosted by the fraternities are held for the primary purpose of their fraternity recruitment. Women do not need to be present anyway!

**Makeup & Attire** should not be overdone. Keep your makeup simple and pretty. Recruitment also is not meant for your "night out" clothes. Keep your jewelry simple and your clothes flattering for your body type. Do not wear clothes that show cleavage, midriff, too much leg, or simply if it is not your true size.

**Timeliness** is important. Be on time – 10 minutes early if possible. It is so crucial to attend events on time. Even if you have an excuse, you miss out on opportunities to meet sorority women and other women in recruitment if you are absent.

## Round 1

### Open House

*September 14th, 2015*

*Visit all 5 Chapters; 30 minute visits*

**The goal** is to introduce yourself, find out who they are, and let them know who you are. You are also to see each house and enjoy some entertainment from the women in each chapter.

**Conversations** will be casual. You may meet only one member or 3 to 4, just depending on the sorority. Be prepared to talk about where you are from, what activities interest you, what your major might be, where you went to high school, etc.

**What follows:** after this round of events, you will have the opportunity to eliminate one chapter.

**What to Wear:** A casual sundress or jeans with a nice top with flats or sandals and conservative jewelry.



# Round 2

## Theme Night

September 15th + 16th, 2015

Visit 4 Chapters; 45 minute visits

The goal is to find a common interest with whomever you are talking, to better understand the philanthropy of the sorority, and to learn of the Sorority activities in a fun energetic atmosphere.

Conversations will be relaxed, You will get another chance to meet more women in each sorority you visit; maximize this opportunity! Again, you may meet four women, you may only meet one. Be prepared to talk about the chapter's philanthropy, issues that you are passionate about, why you chose West Lib, what you like to do in your spare time, etc.

What follows: after this round of events, you will have the opportunity to prioritize which

chapters you would prefer to return to, Chapters will do the same. Women may then be asked back to a max of 2 chapters for Round 3.

What to wear: A casual sundress or jeans with a nice top with flats or sandals and conservative jewelry.



# Round 3

## Preference Night

September 17th, 2015

Visit 2 Chapters; 60 minute visits

The goal is to learn why each member's sorority means so much to them and to get a sense of whether you see yourself as a part of their sorority for life.

Conversations will be more serious. Most sororities will have one or two girls greet you. Be prepared to hear women speak about what their sorority stands for. Things can get emotional with heart-felt poems, readings, and stories.

What follows: after this round of events, you will rank, in preference order, the sororities you attended (up to 2). It is important to remember that these sororities have already chosen you to participate in their preference. If you list all

that you attended in the order of preference, there is a high probability that you will receive a bid (invitation to join their sorority). You will also sign the Membership Recruitment Agreement of Binding Acceptance (MRABA), which outlines PanHellenic policy regarding the acceptance of bids. Your Rho Gamma will give you more information when that time comes.

What to wear: Preference is the most formal round of recruitment. Cocktail length, semi-formal attire should be worn. Do not wear casual attire, anything revealing, or long, formal or prom-like dresses.



# What is Sorority?

It can be difficult to imagine what being a sorority member is all about, especially when we see negative portrayals of them in the media and sometimes in the news. Most members will admit that after becoming one, they found sorority membership to be an even more significant, serious part of their life – and an honor to be held to an even higher standard than they first imagined. Our sororities believe strongly in many of the same standards. Here we try to explain what sorority is, one piece at a time.

## Values & Standards

Values and standards make it possible for sororities to hold their members to a higher degree, creating an atmosphere of respect, loyalty, and pride. When you pledge a sorority, you pledge to uphold the chapter standards and to take an active role in the betterment of the organization. These standards reflect who we are and what we represent – on campus and around the world. This is the responsibility of every sorority woman.



## Unity

Greek Life affords sorority members the chance to unite with amazing women from every chapter in an effort to support the PanHellenic community. Through philanthropy events and community service, each woman is encouraged to reach outside the walls of her chapter to achieve a goal for a bigger cause. The PanHellenic community affords opportunities to better the world around us while forming valuable and lifelong friendships. PanHellenic unity is the glue that holds the entire community together.



## Lifetime Adventure

The four years of collegiate Greek experience is only the beginning – the beginning of a lifetime adventure within a sorority. Sorority women have numerous opportunities to stay connected to and involved with their national or local sorority for a lifetime. Women can join alumnae chapters, attend collegiate events, serve on chapter advisory boards or for the national organization, just to name a few. Additionally, the friendships you forge with sisters now will persist throughout life; these women may be your bridesmaids, the godparents of your children, or annual vacation partners.





## Academic & Financial Commitments

One of a sorority's topmost priorities is the academic success of its members. Every sorority at WLU sets high standards for its members' academic achievement and provides resources and support to lead members to academic success. The Greek women's average GPA is consistently higher than that of non-Greek women here at West Liberty.

Additionally, sororities demand financial commitment with dues and other fees separate from tuition costs. Sorority provides opportunities for women to experience college in its best form. This may include philanthropy and other campus events, formals, and other social events. We must also uphold our financial commitments to our national organizations and local PanHellenic dues; thus, it is the job of every sorority woman to stay current with her dues.



## Leadership Development & Campus Involvement

Being a member of a sorority opens up numerous doors to leadership opportunities. Collegiate chapters are their own governing bodies, responsible for their actions, finances, risk management, public image, and the safety of its members. This self-sufficiency mandates multiple leadership offices, which are available to its members throughout their collegiate sorority experience. And not only are Greek women involved in their sorority, but they are also involved in almost every other campus organization program.

## Philanthropic Commitment

Sorority life offers many opportunities, one of the best being the chance to serve others. By working together and supporting each other's philanthropic efforts, we are able to hold successful fundraisers that annually raise thousands of dollars for our philanthropies. Service is an important part of each of our organizations and helps to remind us of one of the reasons we became Greek – to make a difference.



## Risk Management

Policies and rules regarding hazing, alcohol, & social events are put in place for the Greek community to protect each sorority locally and nationally, and most importantly to protect the welfare of each of our members. We work very hard to educate each member of her social responsibilities, as she holds liability not only for herself, but also for her sisters, her chapter, and her sorority. By respecting the established rules on risk management, we show that we care for each and every member of our community.

# Our Chapters

Take some time to get to know our chapters! Here is some background and general information about our chapters here at West Liberty University! If you have further questions make sure to ask your Rho Gammas!

## Alpha Xi Delta

Chapter: Epsilon Theta  
Founded: April 17th, 1893; Lombard College  
West Liberty founding: November 1966  
Symbols: The Quill  
Mascots: Betxi Bear  
Colors: Double Blue and Gold  
Flower: Pink Killarney Rose  
Jewel: Pearl, Diamond  
Nickname: Fuzzies, AXiD  
Philanthropies: Autism Speaks  
Annual Fundraisers: The AmaXing Challenge  
New Member dues: \$272 plus Quill  
Active dues: \$307  
Pay Plans available: Yes



## Beta Rho Epsilon

West Liberty founding: April 1, 2009  
Symbols/Mascots: Peacock  
Colors: Purple, Yellow, Blue  
Flower: Tulip  
Jewel: Mystic Topaz  
Nickname: BPE/ Beta Rho  
Philanthropies: Relay for Life  
Annual Fund-raisers: Children with Cancer Project, Relay for Life  
New Member dues: \$25.00  
Active dues: \$50.00  
Payment Plans available: Yes



# Delta Theta Kappa



West Liberty founding: August 29th, 1995  
Third Floor Rogers North  
Symbols/Mascots: Tiger  
Colors: Navy Blue & Burgundy  
Flower: Daisy  
Nickname: DOK  
Philanthropies: Ronald McDonald House, Breast Cancer, MS  
Annual Fund-raisers: Turtle Races  
New Member dues: \$35  
Active dues: \$60  
Payment Plans available: Yes

# Lambda Psi Sigma

West Liberty founding: September 7, 2005  
Symbols: Sun, Moon, Stars, Celestial  
Mascot: Goddess  
Colors: Pink, Purple, Silver, Teal  
Flower: Purple Orchid  
Jewel: Diamond & Sapphire  
Nickname: Lambda  
Philanthropies: ASPCA  
Annual Fundraisers: Mr. Irresistible  
New Member dues: \$35  
Active dues: \$50  
Payment Plans available: Yes



# Chi Omega

Chapter: Nu Theta  
Founding: April 5, 1895; University of Arkansas  
West Liberty founding: November 1965  
Symbols: Skull & Cross bones  
Mascots: Owl  
Colors: Cardinal & Straw  
Flower: White Carnation  
Jewel: Pearls & Diamonds  
Nickname: Chi O  
Philanthropies: Make-a-Wish  
New Member dues: \$488  
Active dues: \$270  
Payment Plans available: Yes

Nu Theta Chapter of Chi Omega is in the top 6 of all Chi O Chapters nationally for GPA.

