

VIRTUAL DISPATCH

REPORTS FROM THE ONLINE CHAPTER FRONT

By Irene Jarvis, **Florida Preceptor Eta Chi, Melbourne** and **Online Alpha** member

We hope you enjoy this second offering of our online news reports. Many thanks go to Irene Jarvis, who gathers reports from her stringers around the globe and submits them to the *Torch* department.

ONLINE THETA

The online chapters had a wonderful and busy spring and summer. Online Theta's Founder's Day celebration featured both an online and in-person celebration in San Antonio, Texas. "After a minor difficulty of a 'lost' sister delivered by taxi to the wrong motel, our hostesses and their Envoy husbands welcomed sisters from Florida, Michigan, and Texas. "We received special boxes and goodies. Sisters lingered around the pool or played tourist as the market square and boat rides were just across the street from our motel. Roving musicians, vendors and food booths

welcomed us to their Cinco de Mayo celebration," writes Joan McCullough, of Online Theta and **Georgia Preceptor Theta, Augusta.**

Those who were not represented in person gathered around their home computers as the

Founder's Day message from International and the new theme were announced. After a great dinner, the sisters returned to the motel where they continued to visit with each other, many seeing a dear friend in person for the first time. "We learned so much about each other and laughed so hard. We don't need a lot of entertaining, we can entertain each other. The face - to - face meet and generous hugs typify the spirit of Beta Sigma Phi," says Joan. "Special thanks go to Online Theta members Arlene Fox and Judy Keese and their Envoy husbands Dan and Tom, and Online Theta sister Marti Ocilka. They put a year of planning into making this an unforgettable BSP moment in time. As we are an online career chapter we are looking forward to our new adventures and welcome you to visit us."



ONLINE BETA

Online Beta recently held an online gathering in Missoula, Montana hosted by Karen Huckins, also of **Montana Xi Gamma, Miles City.** Sisters met in airports along the way to virtually travel

together to the Montana State Convention, sharing ideas for land and online chapters.

TEA FOR 55

Online chapters gather yearly at the Florida State Convention for an Online Tea. Tampa hosted a "Taste of Tampa" theme this year, and the tea party had 55 in attendance. There is always tea, of course, and lots of goodies. But every year the most anticipated event at the party is the teacup exchange. Each sister brings a teacup and the hostess prepares a clever way to distribute the cups. After the fun event, Irene Jarvis, was asked to give an overview of online chapters, answering questions from the crowd. Each member had an opportunity to tell of their



experiences with online chapters - and learned about online chapters receiving credit for their time in sorority. After the question and answer session, many expressed interest in joining an

SPOTLIGHT ON AN ONLINE MEMBER



**Liz
Ferraro
New York
Preceptor
Beta
Gamma,
Albany
Online Beta**

Liz Ferraro is a special kind of woman, the kind that can and does do anything she puts her mind to. She has worked diligently to promote Beta Sigma Phi and Online Beta in too many ways to list here. Even though she was recently ill, that did not deter her from continuing her service and fellowship to sorority. Liz traveled to a fellow

sister's home to be with her for her Pledge Ritual and Ritual of Jewels. By taking time out of her schedule to do this, she helped to make the Rituals a memorable experience for a new sister. Because of Liz's patience, loyalty and dedication to Beta Sigma Phi and Online Beta she was instrumental in bringing another member into our sisterhood.

"A yellow rose means gladness, joy and friendship, that is Liz Ferraro."

Do you have an online sister you would like us to spotlight? Contact Irene Jarvis at ILJarvisOLB@aol.com or the *Torch* at torch@betasigmaphi.org