Alzheimer’s Memory Walk
On behalf of all the sisters, I wanted to thank every one of you who contributed to the Alzheimer’s Memory Walk this year. Hopefully, you heard about this philanthropy event from your daughter, but if you did not, it is an annual fund-raising and awareness event for Alzheimer’s research which culminates in a walk which was held Sunday, September 28th. Fourteen girls got out of bed early that morning to walk in the rain including Emily Shao ’11, Robin Dahan ’12, Katrina Ellison ’10, Amanda Grue ’11, Alex Jiang ’11, Steph Leger ’11, Margaret Leibovic ’10, Connie Lu ’11, Michelle Lustrino ’09, Anne Runkle ’11, Steph Shin ’10, Lizzy Wei ’12, Jodie Wu ’09, Grace Yao ’11, and myself. Our fundraising goal was $3,000 and with your help we raised $4,145! Thank you for helping us make this effort a huge success!
-Katie Thomas ’10

In This Issue...
Sister Spotlight: Lauren Cippichio ‘10, Vice President of Membership Development

Events: Theta Xi Mixer, Sophomore Semi-Formal, and Domestic Violence Awareness Week

Special: Tour of the Alpha Chi Omega Mansion!

Plus: Memory Walk Thanks & Photos

Upcoming Issue...
Fondue
Fondue is an annual classy open-house event hosted by Alpha Chi Omega to create and foster relationships between MIT students and faculty members. It is traditionally a three-hour event, with the first hour dedicated to faculty and administrators as well as their families, while the remaining portion of the event functions as a chance for AXO sisters to showcase the beautiful mansion to MIT students and other members of the MIT community.

Independent Activities Period
Interesting classes, fun activities, Externships, study abroad! Where sisters are heading this January!

Recap of Family Weekend
+More!

Above: Waiting for the walk to start, Emily Shao ’11, Steph Leger ’11, Katrina Ellison ’10, and Michelle Lustrino ’09 prepare for the rain outside.

Below: Lizzy Wei ’12 and Robin Dahan ’12 wait for the others before the walk.
Domestic Violence Awareness Week

Our annual Domestic Violence Awareness (DVA) Week, held October 6-10, was a huge success. The purpose of the week is to spread awareness about domestic violence, the national philanthropy of Alpha Chi Omega, to the MIT Community and to raise money for the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (BARCC). We had booths in the infinite corridor and the Student Center all week where we collected donations and sold carnations. Students, faculty, and staff bought these carnations for their friends and co-workers, and the sisters of Alpha Chi Omega delivered these personally on Friday. At booth, we also displayed the Clothesline Project, a display of shirts decorated by victims of violence in order to express their emotions. These shirts stood as a powerful testimony to the problem of violence against women.

On Tuesday night, we held a luminaries event that attracted the attention of everyone passing by the Student Center. We finished the week off with a Charity Lunch on Friday, where a $4 donation bought each guest a plate to fill with catered food. We also included an online fundraising campaign this year. Overall, we raised $3412.61, which will all be donated to BARCC. Donations are still being accepted at axo.mit.edu/donate.php. We would like to thank all the families and friends who were so supportive of us during DVA Week and helped to make it such a great success!

-Sha-har Admoni ’09, VP Fraternity Relations

Below: Inbetween classes, Sylvie Polsky ’11, Amanda Grue ’11, Sarah Cooper-Davis ’09, and Amanda Fried ’11, work at the booth selling carnations and informing the MIT community about donating to BARCC.

Hanging in Lobby 10 throughout the week, the “Clothesline Project” brought many viewers. Boston Area Rape Crisis Center loaned the project to our chapter for DVA Week. The t-shirts feature messages from domestic violence survivors, victims, and families of those abused.

Throughout the week, a booth was set up in Lobby 10 and the Student Center to raise money for the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center. Carnations were bought for a dollar each to be delivered to other students. In addition, donators of any amount were given a button in return.
Mixers
On Friday, September 19th the lovely ladies of Alpha Chi had a mixer with Theta Xi. We went canoeing on the Charles River, and then had a picnic afterwards. We got the canoes from Charles River Canoe and Kayak in Cambridge. The attendance at this event was great; we had nearly 50 people come out to the mixer. There were about 18 guys from Theta Xi, and we had 29 girls. The cost was covered by the Panhellenic office at MIT, the governing organization for all sororities, which gives money to the sororities so that they can get together and hang out with other Greek organizations. This event gave sisters a chance to get off campus for an afternoon, meet new friends, and most importantly, have a lot of fun. Although nothing is set in stone yet, we are discussing with Pi Beta Phi, the new sorority on MIT’s campus, about having a mixer in early December to decorate gingerbread houses for the holiday.

-Ingrid Chaires ’11 & Joanna Faulk ’11, Social Chairs

Sophomore Semi-Formal
The Sophomore Semi-Formal on October 4th was a great success. Over 150 people attended and enjoyed the night. The play ‘How Shakespeare Won the West’, as performed by the Huntington Theatre Company, was a unique story, mixing a blend of Shakespeare, the west, and comedy all into one. The food was delicious, with the night starting out with shrimp cocktail, watermelon boats, and other various finger foods. Frank Sinatra filled the air as sisters found their blind dates, carefully handpicked by other sisters and the sophomore semi committee. Everyone looked gorgeous, with the girls in cocktail dresses and the guys in ties. The night ended with delectable desserts, from napoleons to canolis, by Modern Pastries. Overall, the night was full of fun. The Sophomore Semiformal Committee would like to thank all the sophomores who helped setup, as well as thank all who attended for ensuring that the event ran smoothly.

-Sophomore Semi-Formal Committee, Jenny Chan ’11, Samantha Marquart ’11, Sarah McDermott ’11, Anne Shen ’11, Liz Denys ’11, Nicole Holm ’11, and Carrie DeBoer ’11

Enjoying the festivities at the AXO Mansion before the Sophomore Semi-Formal, Anne Runkle ’11, and Nicole Holm ’11, pose for a snapshot.

Cheryl Kwinn ’09, Minh Huynh Le ’10, and Steff Brenman ’09 enjoyed the snacks at the house before the going to the play ‘How Shakespeare Won the West.’
Sister Spotlight

MEET VP MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT: LAUREN CIPICCHIO ’10

What is your major?
Mathematics with computer science.

Where are you from?
Columbus, Ohio

Do you have any hobbies while you’re at MIT?
Diving.

What are your plans after MIT?
I have no idea right now.

What other positions have you served in AXO?
“Apple Pie at Alpha Chi” Chair, Recruitment Chair Has Membership Development been your most time consuming position?
Yes, I spend somewhere between 5 and 15 hours a week on MemDev. I meet with all 6 of my committee weekly, am a liaison between the committees and the executive board, and also work on every set-up shift for all the events. The most time consuming part of MemDev is that the work never stops. One week it will be fondue, and then the next it will be family weekend, and the next we will have a mixer.

What has been your most enjoyable position?
MemDev. Within the position, I have worked on a committee with 40 other sisters. It is amazing how much you learn about someone from working with them. I have definitely grown closer to all my sisters through the work.

Is there a particular sister within AXO that greatly influenced you throughout your years in AXO?
My big sister Raffaela Wakeman ‘08, was the one who always pushed me to run for what I really wanted. She never let me second guess my abilities and has taught me so many important leadership skills. She really lives as a true Alpha Chi.

What did you realize joining AXO was the best decision? Was there a particularly moment that really touched you?
Alpha Chi’s are not just your sisters when you are on top of the mountain, they are with you when you are laying in the river bank, covered in mud, trying to decided if it’s worth standing up again. They are the ones who will make you stronger allowing you to continue with all the stress of MIT. They are the ones who will never let you give up on your dreams.

What is your favorite AXO event?
Fondue. The fact that we get over 80 faculty, including some of the most respected faculty members in the world, to come to our house and see what Greek life is all about, is amazing. After every fondue we get thank you letters from these Deans telling us it was so amazing for them to meet the sisters of Alpha Chi Omega.

What are your duties as MemDev, and how do you balance these responsibilities with school work?
I run Fondue, Sophomore Semi Formal, Family Weekend Brunch, Carnation Ball, Social Chairs, Sports Chairs, and Song Leaders. I work closely with each committee, help keep people on track, be an extra hand, and be able to communicate problems and concerns with the executive board. Mem Dev is a lot of work but I feel it is so important to give back to Alpha Chi all that it has given me. The way to balance anything at MIT is it to prioritize, set a schedule, and make a timeline. But the most important thing is to not overly stress about any particular instance. No matter how hard you plan, there is always something that goes wrong. You just have to count on your sisters to have your back and be willing to jump in and help at a moment’s notice.

-Lauren Cipicchio ’10, VP Membership Development
Tour of the Alpha Chi Omega Mansion

In case you cannot make it to Family Weekend and enjoy our brunch, here are some photographs of the Alpha Chi house to enjoy. Every year, twenty-five sisters live in the house, located in Kenmore Square on Commonwealth Avenue in Boston. Along with the twenty-five sisters who live there, the rest of the sisters visit our beautiful house for dinner, study groups, cooking, or just hanging out.