

PHI BETA KAPPA
Alpha Association of Colorado
Summer 2015



TWO PBK INITIATES WIN SCHOLARSHIPS

Alpha Association is pleased to announce the award of two scholarships for graduate studies. Kristina Barber from the University of Colorado at Boulder will receive the \$3,500 scholarship, and Pilar Ingle, also from the University of Colorado at Boulder, will receive the \$1,000 scholarship. Several outstanding PBK initiates applied for the graduate scholarship.

Kristina Barber



A May 2014 graduate from CU Boulder, Kristina Barber earned two bachelor of arts degrees — in chemistry and

biochemistry. During her time at CU, Kristina was a member and letter winner on the Division I women's tennis team. She also held leadership positions in a student-run organization, GlobeMed CU Boulder, which promotes global health equity and supports/partners with a Nepalese grassroots medical clinic, Himalayan Healthcare.

Kristina also volunteered in the operating room at Memorial Hospital in Colorado Springs and served as an in-clinic volunteer at Planned Parenthood.

Her interest in academic research was later enhanced through her work at the Dinarello Laboratory at the University of Colorado's School of Medicine, where she studied the effects of both anti-inflammatory and pro-inflammatory

cytokines to modulate inflammation and necrosis.

More recently as a member of the Downey Lab at National Jewish Health, she has studied the role of a protein, PTPalpha, in pulmonary fibrosis and silicosis.

This year Kristina will continue her education at the CU School of Medicine, where she hopes to promote healthcare equity and access while working with underserved communities globally and in the United States.

As part of her application, Kristina submitted a creative writing sample that analyzed characters from Shakespeare's *A Midsummer's Night Dream*, but in terms of chemical reactions. She says this allowed her to incorporate her passion for chemistry into a completely unrelated course.

PULITZER PRIZE WINNER ELIZABETH FENN TO SPEAK AT ANNUAL MEETING

Dr. Elizabeth Fenn, History Department Chair at the University of Colorado, Boulder, will speak at the annual meeting of PBK Alpha Association of Colorado on October 10, 2015. Her topic will be based on her new book, *Encounters at the Heart of the World: A History of the Mandan People*, which won the 2015 Pulitzer Prize for History. The book brings to light the spectacular history of North Dakota's Mandan Indians, widely known for hosting Lewis and Clark during the winter of 1804–5. The challenges the Mandans faced included epidemics of smallpox, outbreaks of whooping cough, and invasions of Norway rats, which diminished Mandan numbers from more than 12,000 in the year 1500 to fewer than 300 in 1838.



Dr. Fenn is currently CU's Walter and Lucienne Driskill Professor of Western American History. She received her doctorate from Yale University, and her prize-winning dissertation, *Pox Americana: The Great Smallpox Epidemic of 1775–82*, was published by Hill and Wang in 2001. Currently working on a biography of Sakagawea, Dr. Fenn lives in Longmont.

Dr. Fenn's Mandan book will be available for purchase at the annual meeting. See "Annual Meeting" on page 2 for further details.

Pilar Ingle



Pilar Ingle grew up in Denver, Colorado, and received her bachelor's degree in psychology from CU Boulder in 2013.

This fall she will begin her graduate education at the University of Michigan's School of Social Work as an Integrated Health Scholar. Following her master's program, Pilar hopes to pursue a career as a hospital social worker, with the goal of helping enhance the healthcare system and improve the quality of life for those facing illness. She tells us she is excited to begin this next chapter in her education.

In the writing sample she submitted with her application, Pilar merged literature and real world

issues that she hopes to address as a hospital social worker. She wrote a short story based on Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*, telling it from the perspective of Helen Burns, Jane's best friend at the orphanage. The story starts with the death of Helen's mother and goes forward to her own death as portrayed in the novel.

Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee consisted of Barbara Berryman as chair, Tom Hall, Rob Wellington, Amy Beth Rell, Ph.D., and Christine Bliven, M.D. The committee found that all applicants were well-qualified and had excellent credentials. The committee completed a thorough evaluation of all candidates and their submissions before making recommendations to the board of directors.

PBK TRIENNIAL

CONFERENCE IN DENVER

The Phi Beta Kappa Society's National Triennial Conference will be held in Denver this year, at the downtown Westin Hotel, 1672 Lawrence Street, from Thursday, October 8, through Saturday, October 10. Alice White will be representing the Alpha Association.

On Thursday there will be two opportunities for our members to participate in the conference. First, our association will be staffing a welcome table in the registration area in three shifts: 10 a.m. to noon, noon to 2:30 p.m., and 2:30 to 5 p.m. Two staffers on each shift will hand out welcome packets being prepared by the Denver Visitors' Bureau, as well as answer questions about Denver and Colorado. Those interested in assisting should email us at board@pbkcolorado.org by September 22, to allow time for official name tags to be produced.

The other opportunity will be to attend a gathering at the History Colorado Center, 1200 Broadway.

ANNUAL MEETING OCTOBER 10, 2015, AT MOUNT VERNON COUNTRY CLUB

The Alpha Association's Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, October 10, 2015, at Mount Vernon Country Club, 24933 Clubhouse Circle, Golden, Colorado 80401 (www.mountvernoncc.com). A short business meeting to review the past year and to elect officers for the coming year will begin at 11:30 a.m. After lunch Dr. Elizabeth Fenn will begin her talk. (Please see the box on page 1 for more information.)

Cost of the lunch will be \$25 and attendees may choose among the following entrées: London Broil with Red Wine Demi Glaze and Roasted Potatoes; Warm Caribbean Shrimp Salad with Avocado, Mango & Grape Tomato; and Veggie Quiche. If requested ahead of time, a sauce can be made gluten-free.

As always, guests are welcome! If you plan to attend, please return the attached reservation form along with a check for your lunch to the address indicated. Reservations must be received by **Friday, October 2, 2015**. If, after reserving, you cannot attend, phone Greg Sorensen at 303-832-2587 by October 2 to cancel. After this date, we will need to charge you for the lunch cost since we are guaranteeing the number of guests.

2015–2016 BOARD SLATE

The following members are nominated for the board of directors for 2015–16:

President: Cheryl Outerbridge

Vice President for Programs: Alice White

Vice President for Membership: Barbara Berryman

Secretary: Rob Wellington

Treasurer: Greg Sorensen

Nominations will also be taken from the floor.

A 5 p.m. reception will be followed by a lecture (6–8 p.m.) from Dr. Penelope Boston, visiting scholar and speleologist, who will speak on "The Planet Within: Caves from Earth to Mars and Beyond." If you want to attend, send an email to board@pbkcolorado.org by September 22. We will register you with the national society.

RECENT ALPHA

ASSOCIATION EVENTS

Some recent special events held by the Alpha Association include:

- **Jan. 29, 2015** — Tour of the Anschutz Collection at the American Museum of Western Art in downtown Denver.

- **Mar. 28, 2015** — Annual banquet with talk by Thomas E. Hames on the history of 10th Mountain Division and Camp Hale.
- **May 30, 2015** — Open discussion at Sherpa House Restaurant and Cultural Center in Golden, followed by personal tours of various Golden attractions.
- **July 30, 2015** — A visit to Rocky Mountain National Park in commemoration of its centennial.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Please send any new or updated email addresses to board@pbkcolorado.org. If you have a new address, also tell us your former email address so that it can be deleted. Thanks!

PHI BETA KAPPA • ALPHA ASSOCIATION OF COLORADO

Annual Meeting

Saturday, October 10, 2015

11:30 a.m.

Mount Vernon Country Club

24933 Clubhouse Circle, Golden, Colorado 80401

(For directions, visit www.mountvernoncc.com)

Dr. Elizabeth Fenn will speak about *Encounters at the Heart of the World: A History of the Mandan People*, which won the 2015 Pulitzer Prize for History

Paid reservations due by Friday, October 2, 2015



PBK NATIONAL TRIENNIAL OPENING RECEPTION

Thursday, October 8, 2015

5–8 p.m.

History Colorado Center

1200 Broadway

Denver, Colorado

Reservations due by Tuesday, September 22, 2015, to board@pbkcolorado.org



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