

Clovia Alumnae News

September 2024

Letter from Gail Eyestone President, Clovia Alumnae

Welcome to the new world of Clovia! With the purchase of the Clovia house at 1200 Pioneer Lane, our Alpha of Clovia Alumnae Association has embarked on a new relationship with the current members and residents. We are now the caretakers of this property and the “landlord” for the women who live there. We have developed an agreement which outlines the roles and responsibilities between our two



organizations which includes: “strengthening of leadership and cooperative living skills in a safe and welcoming home environment,” and “run a fiscally sound corporation by establishing and living within an annual budget.” We were successful in achieving a 501(c)(3) private foundation status and are still actively raising funds to pay off our mortgage within the next five years (more information on that follows). We are applying for property tax exemption, too. I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all the women who serve on the alumnae board and to Brenda Miesner, who has provided so much support. Their tireless

work and devotion to the success of the purchase and the transition of house management is a blessing to me and to all Clovias!

Now we need to work on getting more young women to live at Clovia who will enjoy the financial benefit as well as the lifelong friends and memories which we all cherish. Obviously, the more people who live in the house will reduce the cost overall for everyone, so if you are able to encourage someone who is planning to attend K-State to consider living at Clovia the application may be found at: www.alphaofclovia.org/newmembership/.

We thank Crystal Coffman for her wonderful years as our housemother and wish her the best in her new life in Missouri. We were fortunate to have hired a Clovia alum, Carol Nichols, as our new Clovia House Director. Her responsibilities extend beyond the traditional role of housemother as she helps coordinate visits from service technicians and works with people in the kitchen and elsewhere, as needed. Callie Smedley has joined Colleen Rittman and Jordan Carlson as the alum advisors. Thank you, Hannah Adame for your service and congratulations on the addition to your family! To help coordinate inquir-



ies to the house and its leadership team, the alum advisors have recommended we contact them at cloviaalumadvisor@gmail.com with any questions you may have and they will get the information/question directed to the appropriate person.

We have many more opportunities for you to be involved with Clovia, a position on the board, committee member and mentoring Clovias in your community (a future project).

We have had fun providing study break snacks in December and May, honoring Clovias with their high scholastic achievements in January and welcoming graduating seniors into our alum association.



Who's Who Nominations

We need nominations for the National Clovia Who's Who to be presented at the National meeting in 2025 in Manhattan.

If you know of someone who is deserving of this award please email their name, contact information and information on why they should be nominated to gaileystone@hotmail.com by Friday, October 4. We will vote on who will be nominated at the Annual Meeting on Oct. 5. You may now receive the award as an active and as an alum. Go to our website to see who has already won the honors. alphaofcloviaalumni.org/resources/

Story of How Clovia Became a 501(c)(3)

Amidst all of the struggles to find a way to purchase the house we were also thinking ahead about our long term survival without the Foundation. We knew we needed to be a 501(c)(3) organization. This would give us a number of benefits and allow your gifts to come directly to the Clovia Alumnae Association and qualify for a tax exemption.

So...with more courage than knowledge two of your Clovia sisters submitted an application with the IRS on December 22, 2023. (We had earlier consulted with an attorney; she assured us we could do it!)

For 6 months we waited, called, asked for expedited processing, contacted Senator Moran, and waited some more. Finally a letter arrived and we had some changes to make. We consulted the attorney again and attempted more calls. (It appears it's rare an IRS employee answers their phone or returns messages.) So we made the changes and waited and called again. On July 25, 2024 the 501(c)(3) letter arrived! It's official we are a Private Foundation under the 501(c)(3) tax code.

Please take advantage of our new tax status and submit your gifts directly to our Alumnae Treasurer, Janet Miller 803 W Elm St. Columbus, KS 66725.



Kelli Cox and Gail Eyestone were able to attend the Clovia National meeting in Minneapolis in April and they visited the Beta house.

Clovia Alumnae Annual Meeting

October 5, 2024

Alpha of Clovia

Brunch will begin at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting will start at 10:00 a.m.

Complete the Save our Sisterhood Pledge Card Today!

Complete the attached Pledge Card and mail back to Janet Miller (803 W Elm, Columbus, KS 66725) or Submit the Pledge Card Online at bit.ly/cloviapledge or by scanning the QR Code.



Oh What a Year!

Our Clovia home at 1200 Pioneer Lane was officially purchased from the 4-H Foundation on March 29, 2024. A proud day after the shocking announcement in October by the 4-H Foundation. They were selling Clovia! The five (5) months of negotiations with the Foundation to secure a contract, the search for a loan and discussions with bankers, and asking you for funds all paid off!

Thank you to every Clovia sister, who has participated in the House Purchase Campaign! Because of you we were able to make a \$450,000 down payment on the total purchase price of \$995,000

The loan is a five year loan, amortized over 25 years. The fund raising committee has set the goal to pay off the loan in five years. This will benefit us in several ways; one we will not have to refinance, secondly we can use our resources to make needed repairs and improvements and last of all we can lower house bills. We have a goal of total house ownership by April 1, 2029.

In order to meet this goal we need to pay \$102,000 annually. This will take a commitment from ALL OF US. We have made available a Pledge Form which we ask everyone to complete. Please consider what you can do to help Clovia be a living group at KSU. We want to continue the Sisterhood we all love.

A Reminder for our Clovia Sisters

Have you left a gift to Clovia either in your Will or made arrangements for a planned gift from your estate?

We are reminding you to make the change from the 4- H Foundation as the recipient of your Clovia gift to the Clovia Alumnae Association. We are now a Private Foundation with a 501(c)(3) tax code designation. Your gifts can be made directly to Clovia Alumnae Association and will qualify for tax exemption.

If you need help with making the change or making a new planned estate gift contact Janet Miller, our Treasurer, 803 W Elm St. Columbus, KS 66725.

An estate gift is a wonderful way to leave a legacy.

Why I contributed to the Clovia House Purchase?

~Carolyn Olson, Class of 1969, one of Clovia's first legacy members

Clovia has always been a part of my life! My mother, Margaret Roseman Olson, was part of Clovia during her college years. She graduated from KSU in 1941 and remained active with the alumni group for her lifetime.

She was very involved in the alumni association at the time when the house at 1200 Pioneer Lane was dreamed about and became a reality for future students at KSU.

When I graduated from high school there wasn't any question as to which university I would attend and where I would live.

The wonderful sisterhood that Clovia offers to its members is the reason why the need to contribute was an easy decision for me to make.

I lived at Clovia more than fifty years ago. When many of my best friends today are sisters from Clovia you know the legacy must continue.

Donor Recognition Levels - Become a Donor Today!

\$10,000 or more	Talisman Level	\$9,999 - \$5,000	Coral Level
\$4,999 - \$1,000	Green Level	\$999 - \$500	White Level