



WOMEN IN  
LEISURE SERVICES  
**GAMMA  
CHAPTER**  
CHI KAPPA RHO INC



# Gamma Gram

Winter 2019



*The Professional Connection for Women*

Hello Gamma Gals,

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season, and with the recent rain, I hope you had the opportunity to break out your chic scarfs, sweaters, and boots!

In November, Gamma partnered with Men in Leisure Services (MILS) to host the WILS & MILS Fall Workshop! The workshop featured a morning of trainings, discussions, and networking for sixty-two recreation professionals. Thank you to co-chairs Kristi McClure-Huckaby and Shaunna Hunter and their team for coordinating the workshop.

The Winter Social was held in January at the Springfield Banquet Center in Fullerton, where laughter and joy filled the center as members sipped tea, enjoyed lunch, and reminisced. Past Presidents and Life Members were recognized and money was raised for scholarships! A special thank you to this year's co-chairs Shayna Gutierrez and Nancy Hogan, and their committee for all their hard work. It was truly a great way to kick off 2019.

Our Scholarship Committee is in full swing spreading the word that our application is available online. If you know anyone who is pursuing a graduate or undergraduate degree in Recreation, Leisure Services, Human Services, Public Administration, or any closely related field at an accredited college or university and lives within the Gamma Chapter boundaries, please have them apply.

Cheers to another great year!

Your 2018-2019 Gamma President,

*Ashley Thomas*

*“Keep your eyes on the stars, and your feet on the ground.”  
- Teddy Roosevelt*

# Connect with Gamma

## 2018-2019 Gamma Chapter Board of Directors

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**Gamma Website**

[wils-gamma.com](http://wils-gamma.com)

**WILS National Website**

[womeninleisureservices.com](http://womeninleisureservices.com)

**Gamma LinkedIn**

[linkedin.com/company/wils-women-in-leisure-services](http://linkedin.com/company/wils-women-in-leisure-services)

**Gamma Facebook**

[facebook.com/WomenInLeisureServicesGammaChapter](https://facebook.com/WomenInLeisureServicesGammaChapter)



# National News

## Update from National

The newly installed National Board and Chapter National Delegates held a phone conference on Monday, December 10, 2018. Here are some updates on what is happening with the National Board:

- ◇ National has a new website, and it looks great! Visit [WomenInLeisureServices.com](http://WomenInLeisureServices.com) to check it out! Each Chapter has a landing page on the website where we can link our current website, or start to build a new one, if we choose.
- ◇ National will be using a website called Slack to communicate with each other throughout the year.
- ◇ The Gamma Membership rosters and budget report were submitted to National in December.
- ◇ The Spring National Luncheon and Board Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, April 8 and Tuesday, April 9 in Chicago. The National Board's primary focus will be to review the National Bylaws and Policy Manual, ensuring National is ready to support all the Chapters.



OUR MISSION IS SIMPLE:

# empower.

If you would like more information about National, please contact Gamma's National Delegate **Ashley Wysocki** [ashley.wysocki@cityofrc.us](mailto:ashley.wysocki@cityofrc.us) for questions and updates!



# Gamma Events

## Winter Social - Recap

This year's Winter Social was an elegant afternoon at the Springfield Banquet Center. Life and Active Members came together for an afternoon full of tea, sandwiches, big hats, fundraising for Gamma scholarships and lots of fun! A big thanks to everyone on the committee for hosting a wonderful and unique experience for our members.



# Gamma Events

## Networking Night

FREE  
Entrance!



WOMEN IN  
LEISURE SERVICES  
**GAMMA  
CHAPTER**  
CHI KAPPA RHO INC

"The Professional Connection for Women"

FREE  
Appetizers!

## NETWORKING NIGHT

THURSDAY, FEB. 28

5:30-8:00 P.M.

Socialize with other professionals in the field of Recreation,  
gain resources and fresh ideas!

Select a location and participate in a hands-on networking experience!

All Recreation professionals are welcome (full time staff · students · part time staff · members · non-members) & remember to bring your business cards!



6272 E. Pacific  
Coast Highway #J  
Long Beach



23730 El Toro Road  
@ Rockfield  
Lake Forest



3616 University  
Avenue  
Riverside

**RSVP** to Catherine Schad at [cschad@lakewoodcity.org](mailto:cschad@lakewoodcity.org) & include the location  
that you plan on attending.

### 2018-2019 Gamma Sponsors



# Gamma Events

*Spring Food For Thought*

## Save the Date



Tuesday, April 2



**Location:** TGI Fridays, Costa Mesa

**Time:** 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Speaker:** Carol Jacobs, Assistant City Manager, City of Newport Beach

**Topic:** Work-Life Balance

\$



*Awards and Installation Banquet*

Join us as we celebrate another successful Gamma year!

Thursday, May 16th

More information coming soon!



# Gamma News

## Gamma Birthdays

### February Birthdays

Kathy Ables	2/1
Aumee Frey	2/1
Ruth Raheb	2/5
Robyn Hockenhull	2/7
Mariana Pena	2/11
Ebony Perkins	2/13
Valerie Passarella	2/16
Cindy-Lu Gans	2/23
Tina Cherry	2/24
Danielle Smith	2/27



### March Birthdays

Lauren Burgnon	3/2
Adrianna Hyta	3/2
Jean Smith	3/4
Michelle Khzouz	3/5
Robin Metz	3/8
Cynthia Street	3/9
Karon De Leon	3/10
Karen Fazlurrehman	3/12
Deana Read	3/14
Susan Peebles	3/16
Gaelin White	3/17
Patricia Fierro	3/17
Georgiann Vanderpool	3/18
Rebecca Sandoval	3/19
Diana Miyasaki Davis	3/20
Amber Fazlurrehman	3/20
Lorraine Delarosa	3/22
Jovan Fontenot	3/23
Monica Ortiz	3/25
Ashely Thomas	3/29
Pamela Burton	3/30

### April Birthdays

Kristi McClure-Huckaby	4/2
Stacia Mancini	4/6
Ashley Wysocki	4/11
Sue Hughes	4/16
Marilyn Huff	4/19
Francine Jimenez	4/24
Kimberly Cobb	4/25
Kathy Sorensen	4/27
Karin Anderson	4/30



## Names in the News



Congratulations to **Joanna Contreras** on her new position as Recreation Coordinator for the City of Tustin!



Congratulations to **Kristi McClure-Huckaby** on her new position as Parks and Recreation Director for the City of Monterey!



# Gamma News

## Names in the News



Congrats to **Ashley Blair** on the arrival of her baby boy Cole! Cole Blair was born on November 16 at 3:38 p.m. He was 19 inches and 7lbs 3 oz. Welcome to the world little one!



*If you have exciting news you would like to share with the Gamma Chapter, email Caitlin Carioso at [ccarioso@lakewoodcity.org](mailto:ccarioso@lakewoodcity.org)*

## CPRS Mini Conference

### Gamma presence at the CPRS Region 5 Mini-Conference

Gamma's very own **Amanda Bassett** and **Lydie Gutfeld** gave wonderful presentations at this year's CPRS Mini Conference at the Laguna Hills Community Center.

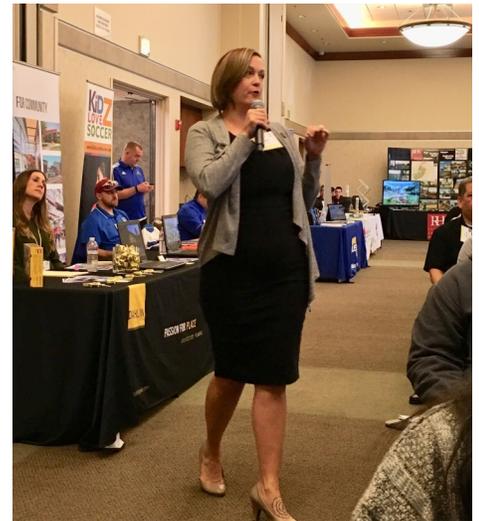
Amanda's presentation about pickleball showed professionals how to get in the game with the fastest growing sport in the U.S. Attendees learned how to find and attract players, reduce costs for startup equipment, manage joint-use courts.

Lydie's presentation on Magnetic Leadership encouraged recreation professionals to identify their leadership characteristics, develop

alternative options for communication and find shared solutions to problems within their teams.

Also, a big thank you to our Gamma Sponsor speaker Rick Francis who gave an informative presentation on Mastering Self Leadership.

Gamma also had a table in the Vendor Fair to promote new membership and student scholarships. Overall it was a great day for the recreation profession!



# Gamma News

## Grant Program

### Gamma Chapter Grant Program

The WILS Grant Program is off to a great start with the following Grant recipients receiving grants for their new membership fees.

#### Caryn Kawamoto – NEW Membership

Caryn works at the Rancho Senior Center in Irvine and assists with the planning and implementation of various programs and events for seniors in the Irvine community. Her work helps provide programs and activities that will make a significant impact on the lives of Irvine's seniors. Caryn says, "For some seniors, coming to our center is the highlight of their day."

By receiving this grant, Caryn will be able to continue to learn and grow within her career. She will be able to network with other professionals, gain more opportunities for training, and gain new experiences.

#### Ashley Blair – NEW Membership

Ashley is a Community Services Supervisor, and has been with the City of Mission Viejo for over 12 years. Ashley started her career as a part-time Specialist and fell in love with Recreation within her first week. She has stayed in the field due to her passion to give back to her community. Ashley says, "There is nothing like seeing your hard work become a reality and making an impact on someone else's life."

By receiving this grant, Ashley will be able to further explore the opportunities available through WILS, continue to expand her professional network as she grows her career, and provide volunteer support to the many programs WILS has to offer.

To apply for a grant, visit [www.wils-gamma.com](http://www.wils-gamma.com).

**Grants are still available for the Spring Food for Thought on April 2, 2019  
and for New Membership Fees.**

## Student Scholarship

### Gamma Chapter Scholarship Program

Women in Leisure Services, Gamma Chapter is proud to announce the 2019 Scholarship Program. Student Scholarship recipients can earn up to \$1,000 in scholarship funds!

To view the scholarship application and requirements to apply please visit [www.wils-gamma.com](http://www.wils-gamma.com). All completed application information is due by Friday, March 8.



For more information contact Scholarship Chair, Marianna Peña at (714) 327-7544 or via email at [marianna.pena@costamesaca.gov](mailto:marianna.pena@costamesaca.gov).

# Gamma News

## *New Gamma Gal*

*Sarah Randall, Community Services Supervisor - City of Anaheim*

### What made you decide to go into the field of Recreation and Leisure Services?

I truly believe that Recreation “picks you.” I only started in Recreation because it was a great job while I was attending CSULB, but the more and more I got involved the more I loved it! In between my part-time years and full-time years, I left the field for a year and a half. I quickly realized that I was meant to be in Recreation, it had “picked me” and I have not looked back!

### If you could have any superpower, what would it be?

If I had a superpower, I would clone myself to be in multiple places at one time! I am a busy mom of two and work full-time, so trying to be everywhere can be challenging.

### What is your hidden talent?

Golf. I won the ladies “longest drive” at the CPRS Golf Tournament in 2018!

### What is one word that describes you?

One word that describes me is “team player”. I love sports and I take being a part of a team into everything I do.

### What are you looking forward to as a new WILS member?

As a new WILS member, I hope to meet new professionals, network and pick up some new tools. I am currently a part of the Scholarship Committee. I am so excited to be help give others an opportunity to continue their education and grow as a professional.



## *New Gamma Gal*

*Kim Cobb, Recreation Services Coordinator - City of Riverside*

### What made you decide to go into the field of Recreation and Leisure Services?

I have formal training in the Museum Education realm, but currently am in charge of an education based nature center within the city formally with the city's museum.

### If you could have any superpower, what would it be?

I would love to fly.

### What is your hidden talent?

Unfortunately, I don't really have a hidden talent.

### What is one word that describes you?

Bubbly

### What are you looking forward to as a new WILS member?

I am new to Leisure Services, and am interested in fulfilling my duties to the best of my abilities and learning more about the roles that women in Leisure Services play.



# Gamma News

## *New Gamma Gal*

*Karen Kawamoto, Community Services Senior Leader - City of Irvine*

### What made you decide to go into the field of Recreation and Leisure Services?

After graduating college I started my career as a Personal Trainer. A few years into training I decided to change my career path and stumbled upon the field of Recreation. Now three and a half years later, I am glad I made the change. I love working in Recreation and feel it is the perfect fit for me!

### If you could have any superpower, what would it be?

I would like to have super speed. Then I could get all my household chores done super-fast and have more free time on the weekends!

### What is your hidden talent?

I am a rower, I rowed for the Cal State Long Beach Crew team and have previously instructed group rowing classes.

### What is one word that describes you?

Crazy

### What are you looking forward to as a new WILS member?

As a new WILS member I am looking forward to meeting new people and gaining new experiences to help me grow within my career.



## *New Gamma Gal*

*Gaelin White, Department Assistant - City of Mission Viejo*

### What made you decide to go into the field of Recreation and Leisure Services?

There are so many reasons I chose a career in Recreation! The professionals I have met are passionate, devoted, and truly committed to serving the community. I've already seen the impact Recreation has had on local communities and I want to be a part of this great effect. I love seeing Recreation professionals raise the standards of the quality of life while continuously seeking new opportunities for the public.

### If you could have any superpower, what would it be?

Super strength!

### What is your hidden talent?

I can play 3 instruments and I sing.

### What is one word that describes you?

Ambitious. I chase my goals regardless of how impossible or intimidating they might seem at first.

### What are you looking forward to as a new WILS member?

I am looking forward to meeting, learning from, and collaborating with strong women in the field of Leisure Services. Our profession is constantly evolving and WILS is an organization where women are supported by one another and encouraged to create new opportunities for each other. I am so inspired by the leaders I have encountered and can't wait to be a part of this new community of women!



# Gamma News

## *New Gamma Gal*

*Lauren Clark, Field Supervisor for CSUF Intramural Sports*

**What made you decide to go into the field of Recreation and Leisure Services?**

My past experience working with Intramural Sports and Titan Youth Sports Camp at the CSUF Recreation Center for 2-3 years has opened my eyes to the enjoyment, sense of purpose, and ability to make huge impacts on others in this field. I love Recreation and am looking forward to where it will take me in the future!

**If you could have any superpower, what would it be?**

I would want the ability to fly so I can avoid traffic all the time!

**What is your hidden talent?**

I can solve a 3x3, 4x4, 5x5, and the mirror Rubik's Cubes!

**What is one word that describes you?**

Enthusiastic

**What are you looking forward to as a new WILS member?**

The opportunity to meet and network with members to learn more about the field and it's different pathways.



## *New Gamma Gal*

*Rebecca Sandoval, Recreation Superintendent - City of Monrovia*

**What made you decide to go into the field of Recreation and Leisure Services?**

I started my career as a youth scorekeeper with the City of El Monte. I quickly developed a passion for all program areas I worked in and knew this was the profession I wanted to pursue.

**If you could have any superpower, what would it be?**

If I had one superpower it would be to fly because I really don't like traffic.

**What is your hidden talent?**

My hidden talent is sewing. I love making things with my sewing machine (when I have time).

**What are you looking forward to as a new WILS member?**

I am looking forward to all the new relationships I will build as a WILS member.



# Gamma Sponsors

## *Sponsor Highlight - PerfectMind*



# PerfectMind

ATTRACT . CONNECT . KEEP

At PerfectMind, we help to build strong, meaningful communities that bring people together around the things we love the most. Municipalities, recreation centers, health and wellness organizations, and academic institutions rely on our intuitive software to manage routine operations and streamline business processes – so that you can focus on supporting and growing your community.

Founded two decades ago, PerfectMind has always been focused on helping to build vibrant, connected communities. We have always looked forward to sharing our success by supporting worthwhile causes, such as health, education, and empowerment. In addition to proudly sponsoring the Women in Leisure Services' Gamma Chapter, PerfectMind is also one of the largest corporate sponsors of World Vision in British Columbia and sponsors over 86 children.

We invite you to connect with us directly to explore how PerfectMind can help your organization create an exceptional customer experience and take your community to new heights.

### **Membership Management Software to Grow with Your Community**

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# Gamma Sponsors

## Sponsor Highlight - Richard Fisher Associates



**Richard Fisher Associates** is an award-winning, full-service Landscape Architectural firm dedicated to providing Public Agencies with Professional Landscape Architectural consulting services and administration for parks and recreation facilities design, permanent open space design, streetscape design, master planning/design, plan check and development guidelines, water conservation programs, and special advisory services. Offering our services since 1979, **RFA** has concentrated our expertise in the design of parks and public spaces. We value our track record of repeat work and believe it speaks not only to our commitment to design excellence, but also to our strong service orientation, with several of our client relationships encompassing our full 40 years of service. **RFA** has become highly specialized in rehabilitation design, as well as assisting cities with implementation of their water efficiency and conservation programs.

**Richard Fisher Associates** holds the belief that it is important to be involved on the sponsorship level with various parks and recreation organizations. Not only is Richard Fisher the longest standing Landscape Architectural sponsor of CPRS, he has also been a proud sponsor of the Women in Leisure Services Gamma Chapter since 2007. In addition, his daughter, Taylor Smith, has been an active, member of WILS since 2008, and enjoys attending the social events, serving on committees, and networking with all of the energetic and innovative members of Gamma.

We invite you to contact us directly to learn more about possible Landscape Architectural services that our company can provide to you.

Warmest regards,

**Richard A. Fisher, President**  
[rfisher@rfaland.com](mailto:rfisher@rfaland.com)

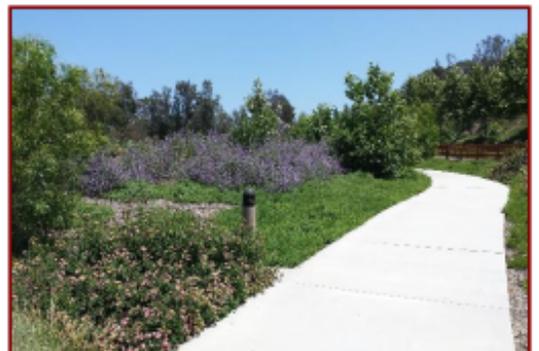
**Taylor Smith, Executive Administrator**  
[tsmith@rfaland.com](mailto:tsmith@rfaland.com)

### **Richard Fisher Associates**

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(714) 245-9270 / Fax (714) 245-9275

[www.rfaland.com](http://www.rfaland.com)



# Gamma Sponsors

The Gamma Board thanks our 2018-2019 Corporate Sponsors

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**Musco Lighting**

**Nuvis Landscape Architecture**

**PerfectMind**

**Richard Fisher Associates**

**RJM Design Group**

The benefits provided by Gamma's sponsors are endless! Gamma Sponsors provide valuable funds which make it possible to provide quality programs, scholarships, and more, all while providing valuable resources for Gamma members and their agencies. Several of our sponsors are also active Gamma members. We encourage you to use the Sponsors section of Gamma's website as a resource; each of our sponsors would be happy to answer any questions you may have about upcoming projects or purchases for your agency.



Perfect**Mind**

ATTRACT . CONNECT . KEEP



**We Make It Happen®**



If you are interested in being a 2018-2019 Gamma Sponsor, please contact Adrianna Hyta at [ahyta@cypressca.org](mailto:ahyta@cypressca.org)