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OHIO ZETA STORIES

I'm an Ohio Zeta alumnus, bond #1302 and the acting housemother, **J. Robert Roemer '70**. I'll never measure up to Mom Sandberg, but she would probably last a month in this day and age. Or should I say "day of age?"

Never-the-less, I'm writing a collection of Ohio Zeta short stories, *Speak from the Heart*. Only the names are changed to "protect the innocent." I'm hoping some of the brothers will refresh my memory. Everything has changed and nothing has changed... go figure; whatever.

I'm finding it very entertaining comparing and contrasting fraternity life before the life and death of John Belushi. Taking it one step beyond 9/11/2001.

Contact me if you have any great Ohio Zeta stories to share, at 614-268-9484 x. 12 or ohiozetapdt@yahoo.com.

Make Sure You Receive the Next Buckeye Phi!

The spring issue of the *Buckeye Phi* will be distributed exclusively to our alumni donors. Please visit our website at www.ohiozeta.com to make your donation to ensure you receive your copy. The limited distribution will allow us to save on postage and printing costs. Electronic copies of the newsletter will be available online to all of our members.

Central Ohio Alumni Association of Phi Delta Theta

BUCKEYE PHI

October 2007

Ohio Zeta Chapter • The Ohio State University

ALUMNI REPORT

Planning Fall Reunions or Buckeye Tailgating? *Check Out the Alumni Website for Some Great Information*

By Bruce Rothermund '90

Another summer has come and gone, and another school year – and football season – is here. I encourage you to use the exciting Buckeye football season as a time to reunite with Phi Delta Theta and your old friends. Join the brotherhood for our Homecoming tailgate on October 20.

Be sure to utilize our interactive alumni web site, www.ohiozeta.com, when planning your fall reunions. The site features a searchable directory where you can look up the contact information of friends, and message boards where you can host era-specific discussions to make all your plans. New on the site this season is an extensive Buckeye tailgating guide, which features links to many places where you can purchase football tickets, order Buckeye apparel, plan your perfect tailgate, and much more. Check it out!

I would like to say thank you to the alumni

donors who contributed a collective \$15,760 to our annual fund last year. Because of their support, we are able to continue our communications program. Your support also allows us to support the undergraduate chapter, which has grown to 85 members, making them the second largest fraternity on campus. Our 2007-08 giving year kicked off on September 1. Help us to ensure continued success with our annual fundraising program by making your gift online at www.ohiozeta.com. And be sure to update your email address on the site so you receive monthly copies of our e-Letter.

Finally, thank you to the alumni who responded to the e-Survey that we sent this summer. Check out some of the results on page 3 of this newsletter.

Phi Delta Theta Awarded Gold Star and Membership Recruitment Awards

By Jeff Schafer

The Chapter was awarded the Gold Star and the Membership Recruitment awards at the Emerging Leaders Institute held in Oxford, Ohio this past July. The Gold Star is typically awarded to the top 15-20 of the 165 Phi Delta Theta chapters nationally.

The Chapter made great improvements from last year's Silver Star. Several key components of the Gold Star winning yearly performance were increased recruitment, higher GPA, a scholarship program for incoming freshman, several minor house renovation projects, a janitorial program, greater Interfraternity Council involvement, and a successful philanthropy program, highlighted by our annual furniture drive.

The Membership Recruitment Award is given to those chapters that recruit and initiate 10 or

more additional Phikeias than in the previous academic year. Phi Delta Theta is now the fourth largest house on campus with 70 active members.

Thirty-five members currently live in the house, which is the largest number of any fraternity. Ohio Zeta plans to continue the current trend of excellence and earn another Gold Star next summer.



Jeff Schafer, President and (right) George Neble, Vice President.

Donald Boyd '09 is a Leader and Active Member of Phi Delta Theta Successful Philanthropic Events and Recruitment are His Specialties

Donald Boyd '09, the Philanthropy Chair at Phi Delta Theta, is studying Political Science and Pre-Law with a minor in International Relations. In addition to staying active at Phi Delta Theta, Donald also serves as the Director of Recruitment for the Interfraternity Council.



Donald Boyd '09

Why did you choose Phi Delta Theta?

As a freshman, I rushed many different fraternities trying to find the one I liked the best, and in the end chose Phi Delta Theta because I liked the guys in it the best. We have the best quality guys on campus.

Do you currently hold an officer position? If so, what do your responsibilities include?

I am currently the Philanthropy Chair. I am in charge of running our philanthropy events and making sure we participate in other philanthropic events around campus. We actually just finished our annual furniture drive in which we partnered with MAP furniture bank. It was a great success and we even had Channel 10 news come to do a quick interview with us.

What activities are you involved with other than Phi Delta Theta?

I am a director of recruitment for IFC, the

Interfraternity Council. In this position we come up with different ways to promote Greek life as a whole on campus. I also have two jobs right now, so I am kept rather busy.

What is your favorite memory of the fraternity?

I already have so many great memories of Phi Delta Theta. The best memory by far is when my pledge class went active. Whenever a new pledge class goes active I still get chills remembering how it felt for me and seeing the same emotions in them.

What is your favorite Phi Delta Theta event and why?

The Christmas party and Mash Bash are definitely my two favorite events by far. For the Christmas party, we decorate the house and all come together for a very good meal and it's nice to have everyone there with our dates. Mash Bash is always fun too because we get to go camping, get out of the city for a little bit, and get some fresh air.

Where do you see yourself in ten years?

I hope to be happily married, and either working at a law firm in the Columbus area or getting into politics. I really enjoy politics and public service.

In your opinion, what makes Phi Delta Theta better than other Ohio State fraternities?

Phi Delta Theta is the standard that other fraternities try to live up to on campus. We are a well-rounded group of individuals. Our men really live our three cardinal principles of Friendship, Sound Learning, and Rectitude instead of just memorizing them. We are all very tight with each other and actually have brotherhood, and I believe that every one of our members has a good sense of moral rectitude.

What is your advice for future generations of Phi Delta Theta?

I would tell the future generations to take care of the house and always continue to make improvements to it. A little hard work can go a long way and the house looking good improves morale and makes everything else look better. Also, get involved in the house early and often. There is no need to wait to be one of the older guys to get involved, there is plenty of stuff to be done and everyone helping out makes everything run a lot smoother.

How do you feel your Phi Delta Theta experiences will influence your future?

I have learned a lot from Phi Delta Theta. The friendships and connections I have made will be with me throughout my life. I can't even imagine my life if I hadn't joined because Phi Delt has become such a big part of my life now.

"I have learned a lot from Phi Delta Theta. The friendships and connections I have made will be with me throughout my life."

Why do you feel it is important for the undergraduate Chapter to maintain a close relationship with alumni?

I think it is very important for the undergraduate Chapter to stay close with the alumni because eventually we all become alumni and Phi Delta Theta, from what I have seen, is truly a brotherhood for life. It is also important because the alumni have gone through many of the same struggles we go through every day and whenever we can get good advice from them on how to deal with problems or situations it is always greatly appreciated.

See the complete interview on the web at www.ohiozeta.com.

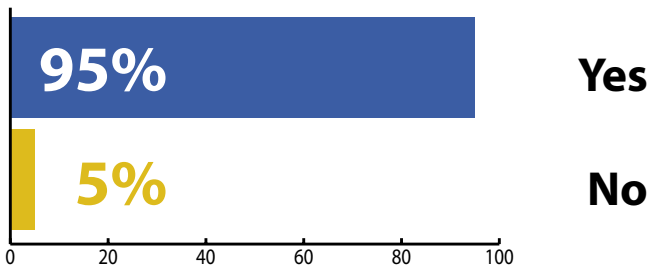
Do you know of an undergraduate or alumnus brother who stands above the rest? Email his story to our editors at content@affinityconnection.com for possible publication in an upcoming issue of the Buckeye Phi.

SURVEY RESULTS

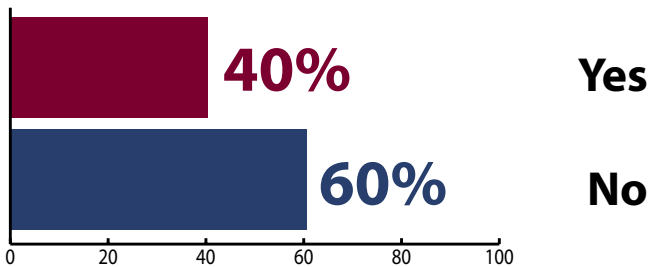
What do YOU want out of your communications program? This past summer, alumni had the opportunity to voice their opinions in our electronic survey. Some of the results were shocking – for example, 76% of respondents would prefer electronic communications from Ohio Zeta, yet only 40% have visited our website!

Below is just a small sample of our results. Visit www.ohiozeta.com to view the full survey.

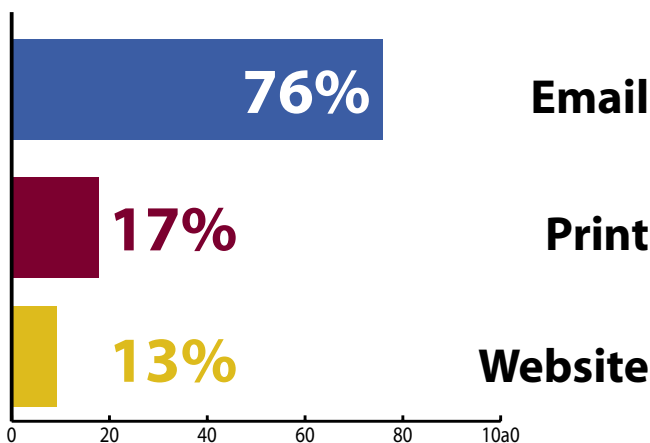
Are you satisfied with the level of communication you currently receive about the Chapter and about our future alumni activities?



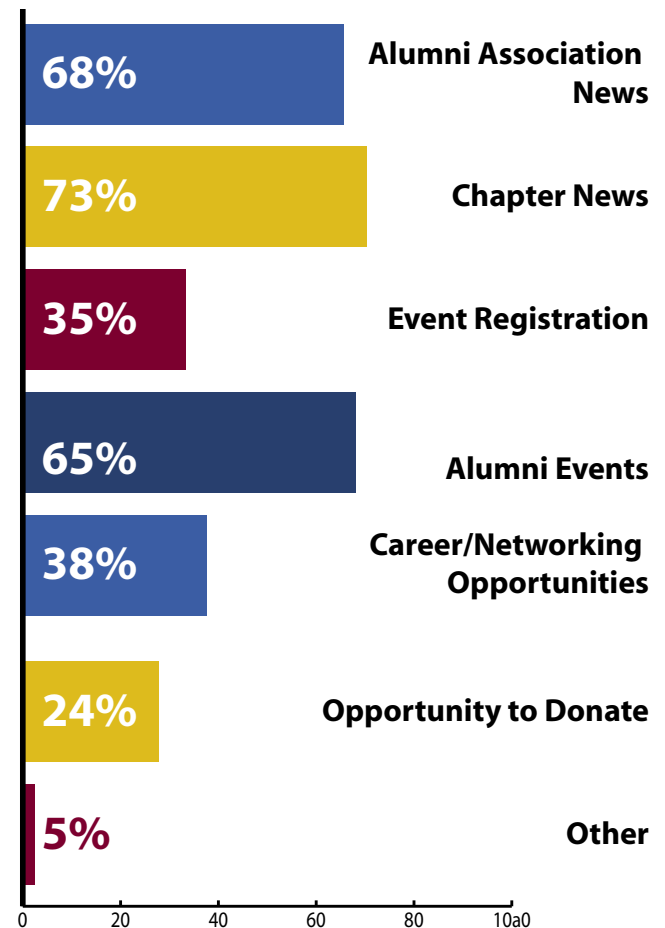
Do you utilize our web community that allows you to create a personal profile and provide access to an alumni directory to help you easily stay in touch?



What form of communication do you prefer?



What would you be interested in seeing on our alumni website?



Didn't receive the survey?

Be sure to update your email address online at www.ohiozeta.com.

You can share your feedback about our communications program on our message boards.

ON THE WEB

Have you visited the new Ohio Zeta website, www.ohiozeta.com, yet? If not, register today to sample some of the new features for all alumni and actives to enjoy! Find an old friend, enjoy photos, get updates on news and events, and even take advantage of the opportunity to chat with your Brothers online.

It's easy to log on the first time!

1. Go to www.ohiozeta.com and click on the **First Time Login** link.
2. Type in your last name in the text box and click **Find**.
3. Select your record and click **Next**.
4. Enter your Member ID (found above your name and address on the mailing panel of this newsletter) and click **Verify**.

5. You should now be logged in and should see your profile. Please update or fill in any missing information.

If you have any trouble with the registration process, click the **Tech Support** button at the top of the screen for technical assistance.

Now that you're registered, you have full access to the entire Phi Delta Theta e-community. Be sure to check out our photo albums, online



Ohio Zeta Pledge Class of 1952 Celebrates 50th Reunion

By Tom Neal

The Ohio Zeta pledge class of 1952 celebrated their 50th reunion in Las Vegas last October. This picture was taken at a cocktail party at my house overlooking Lake Mead. They were delighted to be drinking booze supplied by me.

We had a lot of laughs, sang a few songs, told many lies, and had much fun remembering our days at 1942 Iuka. In spite of all predictions, we were all able to support ourselves, and we were able to avoid incarceration.



Front row (left to right): Admiral John "Hank" Ruehlin '56, Allan J. "Boog" Spilker '56, Mel Rice '57, William Morgan "Bill" Claggett '53, Gerald P. "Jaybird" Starr '58. Back row (left to right): John "Jack" Campbell '57, Tom Neal, Dennis O'Brian, Michael "Joe" Kirwin '56, James Bugs" Bugley.

*Ohio Zeta Wins Two Prestigious Awards!
See Details Inside.*

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