

UPCOMING EVENTS

2008 PDT Annual Golf Outing
August 2

Homecoming
October 25
vs. Penn State

2008 Chapter Officers

President
Kevin Young

Vice President
Donald Boyd

Recruitment Chairman
Justin Bogard

Treasurer
Michael Taormina

Social Chairman
Cortland Schafer

Risk Manager
Patrick Bradley

Scholarship Chairman
Kevin Axelrood

House Manager
Ben Hoperich

Philanthropy Chairman
Nikhil Verma

Alumni Relations Chairman
Pat Filipi

Spring 2008 Pledges

Benjamin Apple
Brookfield, WI

Chris Dove
Chillicothe, OH

Kevin Gullickson
Centerville, OH

Michael Hirsch
Highland Heights, OH

Michael Lee
Fairfax, VA

Philip Mann
Highland Heights, OH

Ryan Marquardt
Sylvania, OH

Central Ohio Alumni Association of Phi Delta Theta

BUCKEYE PHI

May 2008

Ohio Zeta Chapter • The Ohio State University

HOUSE CORPORATION REPORT

Chapter Grades at an All-Time High!

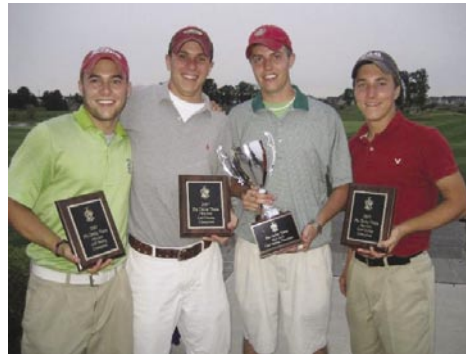
Alumni Support Continues to Motivate the Active Chapter

By Bruce Rothermund '90; President/Treasurer, Ohio Zeta Alumni Association.

I will begin by thanking all of you that have supported the alumni association over the years. You have allowed us to maintain a strong and viable association among Ohio Zeta alums, and to continue to support the active chapter. See below for more information on our annual giving.

Things are going very well at Ohio Zeta. They have one of the largest memberships on campus, continue to succeed with community involvement and Greek activities, and grades are at an all-time high for the chapter.

"[The chapter has] one of the largest memberships on campus..."



Join us on August 2 for your chance to win the 2008 PDT Annual Golf Outing!

As for the alumni association, I encourage you to attend the summer PDT Open as outlined on page 4 by coordinator **Craig Grant '90**, and any or all tailgates prior to the home football games. The tailgate is located in the northwest stadium lot in the most southwest corner of the lot, with four white tents set up in the small grass area there.

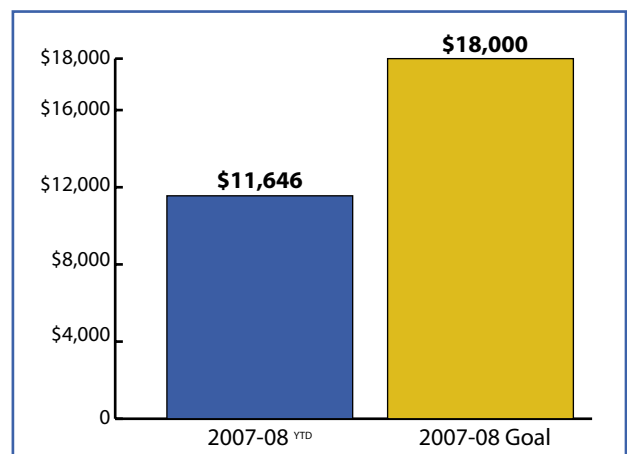
Thanks again for your continued support of the Ohio Zeta Alumni Association.

It's Not Too Late to Add Your Name to the 2007-08 Honor Roll!

Help Us Reach our Goal by Making a Gift by August 31

Thank you to the alumni donors who have contributed so far to the 2007-08 annual fund. As of May 5, we have raised \$11,646. See the names of our year-to-date donors online at www.ohiozeta.com.

If you have not yet made your 2007-08 donation, please help us reach our \$18,000 goal and make a donation online. The annual fund supports our efforts to keep you connected with other Ohio Zetas through *The Buckeye Phi*, our website and annual golf outing.



CHAPTER REPORT

Phi Delt Members Get High Marks, GPA Ranks 12th in IFC

By Kevin Young

Scholastically, we're doing very well at Ohio Zeta. Our house grade point average is 3.12, which puts us ahead of the all-men's average of 3.07. We ranked 12th out of 32 IFC chapters. Eighteen brothers were named to the Dean's list for winter 2008.

This winter, we initiated a class of six men to go along with eight in the autumn.

Currently, we have a Phikeia class of seven, bringing our total for the year to 21.

We held the first annual Phi Delta Theta Home Run Derby at Fred Beekman Park on April 27th. All of the funds raised were donated to the ALS Foundation.

In other news, our own **Patrick Bradley** was recently elected as the Chief Justice of IFC.

At the time of publication of this newsletter, we were gearing up for Greek Week. This year we were paired with Kappa Delta.

We are also looking forward to Homecoming next autumn, which includes the second annual Alumni Brunch and Cookout before the game. Stay tuned to www.ohiozeta.com for details!

UNDERGRADUATE PROFILE

Giving Back to the Community

Philanthropy Chairman Talks About His Job to Get Ohio Zeta Members Involved

By Nikhil Verma; Philanthropy Chair

As philanthropy chairman, Nikhil Verma is responsible for setting up and coordinating all events within our chapter. He works with the ALS Association (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, often referred to as "Lou Gehrig's disease") in Columbus to coordinate events, and is responsible for setting up and running volunteer events. Get to know more about Nikhil in this undergraduate profile.

I am from a town about an hour north of campus called Marion, Ohio. I was born and raised there with my parents and my older brother Rahul (22) who graduated from OSU in 2007. My parents are both from India. My dad is self-employed and my mom volunteers at our local hospital. My mom keeps our whole family close to our Indian background.

I am very interested in sports, human interaction, and learning new things.

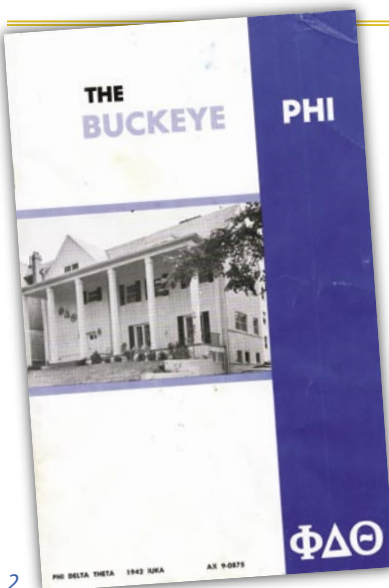
Now a pre-med Biology major, I went to high school at Marion Pleasant, where I was very involved in sports and was valedictorian. I plan on graduating in winter 2010, or maybe (hopefully!) before that. I want to go to a medical school after undergrad. I may take some time off to learn more about business as well. I work at the student ID center (Buck-ID center) on campus. I am also in Health Science Scholars program. I am applying for research positions as well.

As philanthropy chairman, I am responsible for setting up and coordinating all events within our chapter. I balance it with my school work and my job by doing as much as I can do on days where I am

not busy. I tend to get a lot accomplished.

Each year, we also help Material Assistance Providers (MAP) with their furniture drive in the summer as part of volunteerism. MAP is a nonprofit organization that provides free furniture and appliances to Central Ohio families living in empty houses.

I really enjoy the feeling of having responsibility and helping out all these good causes. Since I have joined, we have been involved a lot more with setting a positive image at OSU. My advice to future members is to get involved in the improvement for everyone in and out of our chapter.



Win a Reunion Party for Your Class at The Varsity Club!

Enter to Win by Sending In Your Piece of Phi Delt History

Thank you to J.R. Roemer for sending a copy of the 1960 Rush Book for our archives. Visit www.ohiozeta.com to download the booklet.

Do you have a vintage rush book or composite from your days in Phi Delt? Send it to us for our archives, and you could win a reunion party at The Varsity Club for your class!

All you have to do is scan and post your book and/or composite on www.ohiozeta.com.

Technically-challenged Phis can mail their documents to our alumni relations office at: Phi Delta Theta, Ohio State, P.O. Box 296, State College, PA 16804.

If all else fails, drop off your submissions at the house to: J. R. Roemer, 1942 Iuka Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43201.

Stay tuned to www.ohiozeta.com to view others' submissions and to see who wins our contest!

Phi Delt: Social Fraternity or Matchmaking Haven?

For Chris Peele '90, a Blind Date Set Up by Fraternity Brother Led to His Current Seven-Member Family

Life's little lessons. We all see them and accept them in different ways. **Chris Peele's '90** circumstances are no different from our own. He is a man who actively makes choices to benefit himself and his family.

Ohio State holds a special place in Chris' heart. Not only did he join a fraternity that would influence his life, but he was also pressured into a date set up by **Mike Tzagournis '92**, through which Chris met the woman that he would eventually marry. He and his wife Lisa have five children and even live in the same neighborhood as Mike. Chris loves to tell his children about "Mr. Mike" and how he made it possible for them to be a family.

"The fraternity is a business where its members learn to manage and influence people, be fiscally responsible, and learn to work on teams."

When Chris decided to attend Ohio State, he actively chose to immerse himself in a fraternity and to become part of an intimate community at a large university. He wanted the opportunity to find his own niche and form a lasting network that would exist throughout his life. Chris found his niche at Phi Delta Theta. He admired the outstanding individuals that were members of Phi Delta Theta and felt that their leadership abilities were far above most of the men that he knew. Chris trusted his instincts. Phi Delta Theta was a fit, and the friendships that he made have lasted a lifetime.

The summer of 1988 is one of the most memorable times of Chris' college days. Chris and 10 of his close Phi Delta Theta Brothers drove out to San Diego's Pacific Beach in anticipation of fun in the California sun. With an apartment rented and the jobs that **Chad Amato's '89** father had supposedly lined up for all of them, they set off for a summer adventure. Unfortunately,

when they arrived, the jobs fell through and they were forced to rely on each other and the skills that they had learned at the fraternity. They worked together as a group, being resourceful and flexible – always there to help each other out. Finding jobs at restaurants, painting houses, and roofing in the California desert, they all survived and had a great time. Chris even introduced Chad to a girl that he met on the beach. And as it happens in Chris' circle, Chad eventually married her and they currently reside in Phoenix with their three children.

Driving back to Ohio State, Chris found that summer to be completely worth it. Even as he pulled onto campus completely broke, spending the last dollar in his pocket on a hamburger at Wendy's, he would recommend the experience to anyone.

Phi Delta Theta definitely influenced Chris' life. He believes that no other organization at the University could provide such a large number of opportunities in a collegiate atmosphere. "The fraternity is a business where its members learn to manage and influence people, be fiscally responsible, and learn to work on teams." Brothers have the opportunity to take on leadership, management, and public relations roles that all translate into the business world. Chris felt that when he began interviewing for jobs prior to graduation, that he was offered a number of opportunities because of the leadership and operations experiences that he was exposed to at Phi Delta Theta.

One of Chris' favorite leadership roles at the fraternity was as Rush Chairman. He loved the rush process, organizing and recruiting new members, and building lifetime friendships.

Now Director of US Sales for Edwards Lifesciences, Chris' work and family keeps him very busy. His girls are involved in dance and his boys with football and basketball. In fact, Kyle, Chris' oldest son is a huge Ohio State basketball and football fan. Maybe some day to follow in his father's footsteps.



Chris Peele '90 with his family. Chris loves to tell his children about "Mr. Mike" and how he made it possible for them to be a family.

The Peele family is also very involved with Down Syndrome Association of Central Ohio, working with parents of children with Down Syndrome to help them understand all of the positive aspects and joy that a child with special needs brings to a family.

Lisa and Chris' youngest daughter, Bridget, was born with Down Syndrome. Instead of viewing Bridget's birth as a tragedy, they actively chose to accept the challenges that their family would face and embrace each day accepting each of their children for their own accomplishments. Lisa has established a website, www.bridgets-light.com, to share the Peele family's experiences with Bridget. Their goals are to provide hope and inspiration for others and to influence the medical community as they work with parents whose children have been diagnosed with Down Syndrome. It is truly an inspirational website and a snapshot into the lives of Chris, Lisa, and their family.

Chris remarks that all of us deal with challenges. "Some people ignore them, some people are crippled by them, and some people learn and grow through them. It's a choice." Chris has chosen to enjoy every day with his family, watching all of them grow, being happy, and overcoming their own personal challenges.

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.

Now It's Even Easier to Sign Up for Our Annual Golf Outing!

Register Online at www.ohiozeta.com for 2008 Golf Outing on August 2

By Craig Grant '91

Join us August 2 for the 2008 PDT Annual Golf Outing! We are going back to the Golf Club of Dublin for another great event.

Thanks to **Bruce Rothermund '90**, we have combined forces with the PDT Ohio Zeta website (www.ohiozeta.com) for registrations, payment, and pictures of previous events, so keep your eyes open for email blasts with details. If you haven't yet logged into that site, use your Member ID found above your name and address on this newsletter to follow the first-time login instructions. Be sure to also update your email address so you're sure to receive updates about the event!

We expect a huge turnout this year so register your team today online at www.ohiozeta.com/pdtgolf.

Important Information

- **Time & Place:** Shotgun start at 2:30

pm at the Golf Club of Dublin

- **Cost:** \$160 includes range balls, greens fees, cart, beverages during the round, and dinner (domestic beer, sports drinks, water, soda), dinner (menu TBD), T-shirt, and fun.
- **Cash Prizes & Give Aways**
- **Long Drive and Closest to Pin** will be on the course this year
- **BW3:** cash lunch and beverages before golf. Doors open at 11:30.
- **Not-so-subtle reminder:** you won't play unless you pay. We will accept cash or checks the day of the event and The Golf Club of Dublin will accept credit

cards if you haven't paid through the website beforehand.

- **Have questions?** Contact Craig Grant at craigbgrant@gmail.com or 773-726-7439.

Register your team today, view full details and see a list of who's going at www.ohiozeta.com/pdtgolf.



The 2008 PDT Annual Golf Outing is getting ready to tee off! See inside for details.



Win a reunion for your class at The Varsity Club... see page 2 for details!

448-063 SN

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