

OFFICERS

President
Bruce Rothermund

Vice President
Keith Davis

House Corp. President
Scott Armstrong

ACTIVE CHAPTER



Downs After Dark 2016

The gentlemen of Phi Delt got together on September 24 for some bonding at Downs After Dark.

Then, on October 8, they held a volleyball tournament to raise money for the ALS Association.

It is your hard work and dedication that makes us proud to call ourselves your Brothers. Keep up the good work!



OHIO ZETA E-NEWS

Are You Up-To-Date?

Our chapter sends out monthly eLetters with alumni profiles, upcoming events and important announcements. Are you receiving yours?

Send an email to alumninews@affinityconnection.com to sign up today!

Central Ohio Alumni Association of Phi Delta Theta

BUCKEYE PHI

www.ohiozeta.com

Fall 2016

Ohio Zeta Chapter • The Ohio State University

HOUSE UPDATES

Generous Alumni Support Makes Renovations Possible

by Bruce Rothermund, Alumni Association President

The Ohio Zeta House Corporation spearheaded a major renovation project at the Chapter House this summer. The



total for the project was \$150,000 with the funds coming from Nationals via a loan from the Palmer Fund and alumni donations. Your generous contributions allowed us to give approximately \$10,000 towards the total.

The project was directed by House Corporation members **Tom Oswald** and **Dick James**. They put in many hours overseeing and inspecting the work, and did a great job from start to finish in keeping everything on track. We all owe Tom and Dick a big thank you. In addition to making much needed updates and



improvements, the work allowed the house to qualify for the new university requirement that all sophomores live in student housing.

This helped the chapter in having the most members living in the house in the last fifteen years.

Even though the work is completed, you can still make a donation, which will help to pay off the Palmer Fund loan more quickly. Simply make a donation like you normally would to the alumni association and funds will be directed to the House Corporation.

Thank you for your support of this important project!

HOMECOMING 2016



Scott Armstrong (left back), Brian Bandi, Chris Peele, Bruce Rothermund, Sean McKee, Dan Wise, Don Hersman, Tom Foster.

Have a great photo from Homecoming or another gathering with your brothers? Send it to alumninews@affinityconnection.com to be included in the next *Buckeye Phil*!

CHAPTER ETERNAL

In Memory of Richard Secrist '50 and Stephen Kellough '50

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Brothers Richard Secrist '50 and Stephen Kellough '50. Though they are no longer with us, they will remain forever in the hearts and memories of their friends and families.

Via *The Desert Sun*—**Richard Austin Secrist '50** passed away peacefully March 6, 2016 in Palm Springs, CA. Devoted husband and father, Richard is survived by his wife of 66 years, Anna, sons Richard, Christopher, Timothy and daughter Leda, 13 grandchildren



and one great granddaughter.

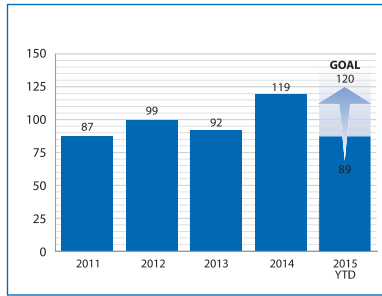
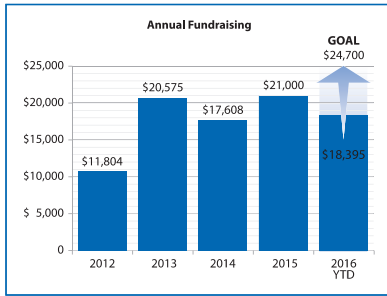
Richard served in the Navy at the end of WWII and then graduated from Ohio State University with a degree in business, GO Buckeyes! With his growing family, Richard soon moved to Novato, CA where he and Anna lived until moving to Palm Springs in 2000.

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ANNUAL FUND

Help Us Kick Off the 2016-17 Giving Year Strong!

Our 2015-16 giving year came to an end on August 31 with \$18,395.80 donated to the annual fund by 89 brothers. We want to thank each and every one of you who made a contribution back to Ohio Zeta Chapter this previous giving year.



All Ohio Zeta members benefit from the generosity of alumni who support the chapter. We should all be thankful for the gifts that funded our scholarships, chapter events, house improvements and leadership training.

Our goal for the 2016-17 giving year is \$20,000 from 100 brothers and we've already had 18 brothers step up and say "I believe in Ohio Zeta!" by donating \$2,732.60. Who will be the next to join them?

Donating is easy! Simply call our toll free donation hotline at 1-800-975-6699 or send a check made payable to Ohio Zeta Chapter Alumni Association to:

Phi Delta Theta
Ohio State University
Alumni Relations Processing Center
P.O. Box 7007
Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007

Those gifts—and our fraternity experience—have made a lasting impact on us, enriching our lives with lasting friendships, providing a professional network and giving us leadership skills.

Now, as alumni, we can enjoy playing a role in providing a similar experience for younger generations of brothers.

By making a gift to Ohio Zeta Chapter, you'll honor the lifelong benefits you gained from Phi Delt, help facilitate more frequent alumni events and help ensure our undergraduates are upholding our three Cardinal Principles of friendship, sound learning and rectitude.

Thank you, again, to all those who have made a donation.

2015-16 HONOR ROLL

Ohio Zeta Legacy Society (\$1,000+)

Clark Orville Berry 1961
 John A. Rolls 1964
 Patrick R. Hylant 1970

Founder's Circle (\$500 - \$999.99)

Richard A. Secrist 1950
 John W. Luce Jr. 1965
 James H. Wyland 1973
 Jack Gerard Grega 1980
 Darren R. Hissong 1984
 Randall Thomas Gerber 1990

1848 Society (\$250 - \$499.99)

Richard K. Desmond 1950
 Richard W. McCabe 1953
 James E. Hartley 1957
 Thomas J. Eyerman 1961
 Nelson R. Embrey II 1963
 John A. Schoedinger 1964
 Kerry C. Dustin 1967
 Jeffrey B. Gudenkauf 1968
 Leland E. Moree III 1981
 David M. Hickey 1982
 Grant L. Douglass 1983
 Thomas Russell Young Jr. 1991

1942 Iuka Ave Society (\$194.20)

Robert D. Shoemaker 1952

Charles K. Humbert 1953
 George N. Jonson 1956
 Daniel M. Winzeler 1956
 Philip A. Brewer 1958
 Frederick J. Blesi 1959
 Wellington F. Roemer II 1959
 Raymond E. Siferd 1959
 Nicholas S. Zettler 1961
 Glenn R. Baker 1963
 Ronald G. Bell 1964
 Randy Thrasher 1964
 Stanley E. McCormack 1971
 Keith A. Davis 1976
 J. Brian Mullen 1976
 Jeffrey Allen Dahl 1982
 Rick A. Delaney 1982
 John F. Jacobs 1984
 Brian P. Bandi 1986
 Steven Carl Julian 1989
 Dennis Robert Train 1991

Azure Club (\$100 - \$194.19)

A Jackson Smith 1952
 Morgan Boyd Claggett 1953
 John Jacob Zettler 1960
 Silas W. Thimmes 1961
 Paul W. Warnick 1961
 David Allen Howe 1962
 Robert P. Liggett 1962
 John H. Thomas 1962

Stanley Timothy Rose 1963
 William J. Koenig 1968
 Jay C. Lee 1968
 William Thomas Roemer 1968
 Lawrence O. Hilditch 1969
 Ronald Wayne Brown 1970
 Patrick J. Fahey 1971
 James M. List 1972
 Timothy E. Hawley 1973
 Charles D. Hendrickson 1973
 Brian J. Darah 1976
 Paul F. Davidson III 1977
 Mark A. Mesec 1978
 David W. Priestley 1978
 James P. Yankle 1978
 John Michael Pitman 1979
 Marcus D. Presar 1979
 Richard R. Karn 1980
 Steven L. Custenborder 1981
 David C. Lickovitch 1984
 Robert G. Sperry 1984
 Thomas Charles Foster 1987
 David Manning Ross 1989
 Shannon Lee Shinaberry 1991
 John Matthew Urbancic 1992

Argent Club (\$50-\$99.99)

Thomas A. Holton 1964
 Jerry L. Hainen 1965
 Richard A. Baker 1967

Scott Greene 1967
 Tom A. Backhus 1970
 Robert S. Sallade 1972
 G Allen Gano 1973
 Charles C. Wright 1976
 Bradley C. Elrod 1978
 Gregg L. Rothermund 1978
 Thomas W. Hulme 1981

Other

Robert A. Tulk 1948
 Carl P. Hirsch Jr. 1964
 Jay K. Achenbach 1978

By the Numbers

1474 Active Members

Average Gift: **\$91.40**

1198 (70%)

Never Donated

Top Giving Decade:

1960s

Co-CEO of Nerium International and CEO of Sustainable Community Media

Jeff Dahl '82

I joined the chapter because several guys from Centerville High School had already paved the way. Over my four years there were over 20 Brothers from Centerville in the Chapter.

The road trips to other Ohio Chapters and Greek Date parties were a blast, but Greek Week and our annual Pig Roast were some of my favorites. And Buckeye games are still an annual tradition.

I still keep in touch with many brothers. Some include **Mark Shepard '83**—I was just at his daughter's wedding—**Kurt Spangenberg '82**, **Kent Garmen**, **Jeff Henry '83** and, of course, **Chip Bond '83** (who married my sister, Judy, Pi Beta Phi '84).



Jeff with his wife and three children

I am currently Co-CEO of a Dallas-based consumer products company, *Nerium International*. We operate in five countries today, and I spend most of my time sitting in airplanes.

Ohio Zeta Chapter taught me the importance of networks and friends, and belonging to something bigger than yourself. Can't go through life, or your career, alone!

I married Sonya (Pi Beta Phi '83). I have three kids. Kirsten (Baylor) is a Doctor in Charleston, SC. Erik (US Naval Academy) is a Navy Helicopter Pilot, married a UM Gopher and is a new father. Jared is an Oklahoma senior. I spend my weekends on a cycle and occasionally compete. The Hotter 'N Hell 100 is coming up soon!

My biggest accomplishment was balancing a career that spanned four continents and 30+ countries with family. Never lose focus on your family, and try to enjoy every moment with them. Living in Hong Kong was particularly rewarding for all of us.

My advice to future members is to get engaged, build a network and build your resume! The steps you take today will have a long-term impact on your future.

Robert Fincher '74

After owning the Maytag distribution organization throughout Florida, I made a decision to go into web development and inevitably into online publishing in 1998, in the early days of the Internet. Since then, my partners and I have launched 13 news and information portals devoted to 17 different industries.

Additionally, I am publisher and CEO of *Sustainable Community Media*, the parent company of Proudgreenhome.com and proudgreenbuilding.com. These are digital media portals helping building professionals and consumers be more knowledgeable and inspired about building or remodeling their homes and commercial to be greener, more sustainable.



Bob Fincher '74 at Joe Nall Air Show in South Carolina

My time in Ohio Zeta helped me mature some, and many of my brothers inspired me to higher levels of motivation and commitment to excellence in my past business pursuits.

I have been married 27 years to Barbara. We have two awesome children in Tampa and Dalton, GA and four grandchildren, who we see as often as possible.

Barb and I very much enjoy traveling and camping in our Airstream that we purchased from a good friend and brother in the bond, **Eric Davis '77**, an Airstream dealer in Columbus, Ohio. I am also big-time into flying large, radio-controlled aircrafts. Many weekends are involved attending air shows. And we are very devoted to our two crazy boxers



Bob's Boxers: Laila and Lars

who assure we are always laughing.

I think, the slow but persistent evolving from chasing things that are transitional and less important, and learning over the years to value things that are more eternal... family, friends and faith.

My advice to future members is to redouble commitments to The Ohio State Buckeye football team, do what you love professionally, communicate regularly with your family and eat your vegetables!

What have you been up to since graduation? Share your stories in the next Buckeye Phi by emailing your story to alumnews@affinityconnection.com. Check out more alumni profiles on our website at www.ohiozeta.com.



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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In this Issue...

- Chapter House Renovations
- Checking in with two CEOs
- 43 years of Homecoming memories

CHAPTER ETERNAL

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Richard enjoyed tennis and golf. The men's group at Tahquitz Creek Golf Resort was an important part of his later years. Richard was a man of faith. The Episcopal Church was an important part of his entire life. The fellowship and love for his "church family" meant so much to Richard.

Via schoedinger.com—**Stephen Kellough '50**, 89, died peacefully at The Grand, a nursing home in Dublin, OH on May 7, 2016.

He enlisted in the US Navy at age 17 near the end of WWII. He attended Oberlin College, University of Wisconsin and The Ohio State University with the help of the GI Bill. Steve graduated from OSU where he was a member of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. He returned to the Navy during the Korean War. Steve served on the USS Charles P. Cecil, USS Teton and USS Leary. At the time of his Honorable Discharge, Steve was a Chief Gunnery Officer.

He was a Mason and a long-time member of First Community Church where he belonged to a wonderful Couples Circle with his wife, Marilyn. He served his church as a Deacon and a member of the

Governing Board. Steve also volunteered for the Ohio State Chapter of Phi Delta Theta and Peck O' Wee Ones, later named the Heinzerling Foundation, where he was a member of the Board of Directors.

He started his long career with Big Bear Stores bagging groceries and retired as the company's Executive Vice President. Steve enjoyed traveling, reading, golf, swimming, deep-sea fishing, skeet shooting and quietly helping others. He was generous, funny and proud of his rural heritage. He believed strongly in the importance of higher education and loved his family.

Steve survived three types of cancer over 55 years. He will be missed; but we rejoice that he is with God!



BROTHERHOOD

43 Years of Homecoming Memories

Homecoming is the perfect time to come back to Columbus, watch some great football and catch up with your brothers. We just celebrated Homecoming and a huge Buckeye victory (58-0) on October 1. Even more impressive than that incredible football score, though, is the brotherly bond and dedication of a group of Ohio Zeta alumni who have been coming together to celebrate for the last 43 years.

Tom Oswald '71, Tom Panek '69 and others started having dinner together to celebrate Homecoming approximately 43 years ago. Since then, the group has grown slightly, but most members have remained constant over the years. Each year, one member is in charge of organizing the Saturday night dinner following the football game.

Share your reunion photos at affinityconnection.com!



(L-R) Pat Fahey '71, Mike Kollar '71, Tom Oswald '71, Bob Sallade '72, Dave Phillips '71, Greg West '72, Tom Panek '69, Tom Swain '71