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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?

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Central Ohio Alumni Association of Phi Delta Theta

BUCKEYE PHI

www.ohiozeta.com

Spring 2017

Ohio Zeta Chapter • The Ohio State University

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Jim Sauter '99 Shares How Phi Delt Influenced his Life

From Taking Trips Together to Sharing Life Lessons

We recently asked alumni to share their Phi Delt story, and James Sauter '99 had a lot to say. For him, there is no shortage of good memories and no doubt that his Phi Delt years shaped his life.

Q: What are your favorite memories from Phi Delta Theta?

A: I always loved Mash Bash, which was about 700 people camping together. It was always a wild night where a few of us just pushed through until the next day. We went fishing and had bonfires, and we would always end up swimming after all was said and done. We never had a mash bash that wasn't a top 10 party for any of us.

Going active was a great memory. OSU football games were always a rowdy time and still are for me and the alumni. We also traveled to many away games.

One time, about 15 of us headed to Phoenix for spring break to see a Phi that moved there: **Christian Hipkiss '97**. Christian is back in Columbus now and his family and mine eat dinner together about twice a month. We hit Phoenix, Vegas, and hiked to the bottom of the Grand Canyon looking for trouble. We found plenty—with no arrests or major injuries.

I think my roommates and I spent about \$3K a year at La Bamba, a burrito joint that was open until 3 a.m. We would go there after the bars, when we were studying and needed dinner, and for lunch. No surprise they went out of business a few years after we graduated. Good food though. They still have locations on some Big 10 campuses and near Butler and we seek it out when we can.

New Orleans Jazz Fest was a big one, as well as the Ark Band Concert at our house, the Menus concert at our house—so many concerts.

Q: What brother(s) have most positively influenced your life?

A: My older brothers were both in the house

before me so I would start with them. My big brother **Chris Duger '94**, was a huge mentor in my college years. There are really too many to mention. My friend **AJ McPherson '97** was my best man and I was his. Same with our wives! I could go on and on. There are too many to name. I am blessed to know guys in my class and in both of my older brothers', so the amount of influence, support, and guidance I've had in life from them all is tough to describe.

Q: In what ways did Phi Delt impact your life?

A: I travel a lot for work—there is no city where I don't have an old friend to see and catch up with. Socially, the house gave me a lot of confidence at a young age that helped me in my personal and professional life from then, until now and moving forward. Academically, those years were the best grades I ever had. Not to be cheesy, but brotherhood and ritual are still very important to keeping me balanced. You can't be successful living in a bubble. There is a pride that comes with the memories and comradery—it makes you feel powerful being part of something bigger than yourself.



Jim Sauter '99

Q: Do you still keep in touch with any brothers? Who and how?

A: Absolutely. In person, on the phone, through email, through travel, and planning time together as well. We are all getting together for the OSU/Army game next year. Guys are coming from California, Denver, New York, Philly, Saint Louis, North Carolina, etc. We are hoping to make this a tradition: home game one year, away game next, and then repeat.

Q: What has been the best part of the alumni experience for you?

A: Continued leadership, comradery and support.

Want to get in touch with Jim? You can reach him at jimsauter@myrustybucket.com.

"There is a pride that comes with the memories and comradery—it makes you feel powerful being part of something bigger than yourself."

WHAT'S COMING UP IN COLUMBUS?

Prime Opportunities to Connect with Your Brothers

It may be a challenge to get back to Columbus if you've moved away, but it's never too late to reconnect with your brothers. That's why we've compiled a list of opportunities to return to the Columbus area and catch up with your brothers.

Buck-I-Run

April 14, Columbus, Ohio

While you're back in town for the big spring game, plan to join fellow alumni, students, staff, and faculty on this one-of-a-kind 5k run—an Ohio State tradition.

Registration begins at 7 p.m. and the race will start at 8:30 p.m.

Learn more or register online at www.tinyurl.com/Buck-I-Run.

Ohio State Spring Football Game

April 15, Ohio Stadium

The real season may be months away, but it's never too early to start thinking about getting together for food, fun, and football with tailgates at the Horseshoe—starting with the annual spring scrimmage!

This is sure to be a fun game and an opportunity to see some of the newest recruits in action. Since Urban Meyer took over before the 2012 season, he has fueled Ohio State's on-field success by dominating in recruiting circles across the country. He has provided Buckeyes fans with plenty to cheer for as he's never had a recruiting class ranked outside of the Top 10 nationally. This year was no different. In fact, many recruiting experts are calling this class Meyer's best yet. The group of 21 recruits included five five-star recruits. A handful could have a shot to play immediately as freshmen as the Buckeyes look to return to the top of the Big Ten in 2017.



Brian Bandi '86, Chris Peele '89, Bruce Rothermund '90, Sean McKee '90, Dan Wise '91, Don Hersman '92, and Tom Foster '87 at Homecoming 2016.

The spring game is one of the best chances to come back to campus for an afternoon of football, to celebrate the upcoming season, and to catch up with brothers. Hopefully it'll hold you over until the real season begins this fall.

Columbus Arts Festival

June 9 – 11, The Riverfront

The Riverfront will again be transformed into a stunning outdoor art gallery as 300+ of the nation's top artists display their work. While you're there, you can enjoy gourmet fare from some of the city's finest restaurants, live concerts, dance and theatre performances, hands-on art activities, and more!

Learn more at www.columbusartsfestival.org.

37th Annual Red, White, & BOOM

July 3, Downtown Columbus

Red, White, & BOOM features the most recognized firework display in the Midwest. In addition, the event features a parade, a children's park, and local entertainment. This is a prime

opportunity to plan a family or individual trip to meet up with your brothers. While you're there, be sure to stop by campus!

Learn more at www.redwhiteandboom.org.

Will you be in Columbus in the upcoming months? If so, please be sure to stop by the house to see your old room or meet the active brothers.

If you're planning a reunion/event and need help promoting it, email us at alumninews@affinityconnection.com so we can publish details in upcoming Ohio Zeta communications.

ALUMNI UPDATES

John Rolls '64 (4 Frog Rock Rd., Armonk NY; jrolls@jrolls.com)

I was a devoted but unaccomplished member of Ohio Zeta. I graduated from OSU after one flunk-out with a 2.3 average. First job GM, then managed to get accepted for business school at Columbia and Harvard. I chose Columbia—a life changer. After Columbia, I became Treasurer of Monsanto, CFO of Monsanto Europe in Brussels, CFO of RCA, CFO of United Technologies, and CEO of Deutsche Bank North America. Now, I fool around with my toys, airplanes and old cars and have houses in Armonk, NY, Martha's Vineyard, and Harbour Island, Bahamas.

Jack Grega '80 (13125 Kenedo Cir., Elbert, CO 80106; jackgrega@yahoo.com)

I live in Colorado, and have a 14-year-old daughter, Charlotte. I am married to my best friend and a gorgeous California Girl! We live on a small ranch with two horses. Mine's a quarter horse, and my wife rides a retired race horse who is a descendent of Oliver's Twist and Secretariat. Say hello to all my Brothers.

Tod Roemer '59 (P.O. Box 146, Conner, MT 59827; todmontana@yahoo.com)

I will be 80 years old in May. I enjoy snowmobiling, and I live between Pompano Beach and Bitterroot Valley in Montana. Life is good!

Do you have any photos, personal or professional updates, information about recent or upcoming reunions, or memories to share for upcoming issues of *The Buckeye Phi*? Submit your update online at www.ohiozeta.com or send it to alumninews@affinityconnection.com and be sure to mention Ohio Zeta Chapter.

2016-17 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

Loyal Alumni Are the Heart and Soul of Ohio Zeta

Ohio Zeta Chapter is lucky to have so many generous alumni behind us. With your support over the years, we've been able to make house renovations and provide critical support to our undergrads. Thank you to the following brothers who have made contributions this year.

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

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Jeffrey B. Gudenkauf 1968

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**Reflects gifts made before 3/9/2017*

If you haven't made your gift yet, please remember all that Ohio Zeta gave to you and how important it is to pay it forward. Make your gift online today at www.ohiozeta.com or by sending a check payable to Ohio Zeta Chapter Alumni Association to:

Phi Delta Theta
Ohio State University
Alumni Relations Processing Center
P.O. Box 7007
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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Kent Flaherty '78: Phi Delta Theta Taught Me to Be a Better Person...

Kent Flaherty '78 chose Phi Delta Theta over a number of other fraternities thanks to a few high school friends that encouraged him to join. Of course, the chapter's good reputation on campus had a hand in his decision as well. Looking back, Kent can't deny that the experiences he had in the house truly shaped him into the man he is today, and now he pays tribute to those experiences by supporting the chapter when he's able.

"Being a brother in Phi Delta Theta has taught me to be a better person in life's long paths of events – whether they are good or bad," he says. "I felt that it was time to give something, specifically money, back to the fraternity. My experience there had a great impact on my life, along with some really great memories."

Today he remains in contact with several brothers through social media and in gatherings held in his current home state of Arizona.

Anyone who remembers Kent knows he was a big fan of sports. In fact, during his undergrad days, Kent fondly recalls being part of the championship intramural soccer team with his brothers.

"I have great memories of playing in that league," he says. "There is still a trophy at the house that bears our names and accomplishment."

"My experience there had a great impact on my life, along with some really great memories."

While he's no longer part of the collegiate sporting world, Kent continues to stay active as a certified snowboard instructor a few months out of each year, citing Arizona as an ideal location for winter sports.



Kent Flaherty '78

"Not too many folks realize that northern Arizona gets an annual snow fall of 300-400 inches—it makes for great riding conditions," he explains.

And Kent, like many of his brothers, is a die-hard Buckeyes fan.

"We made it to the Fiesta Bowl this year to witness an embarrassing turnout by the team," he says, "but hopefully with the new incoming offensive coordinator, the team will improve their offensive strategy and once again dominate the offensive line of scrimmage."

Today, Kent works in the construction industry, specifically in the mechanical segment, as a technical salesman selling specialized Heating, Ventilating, & Air Conditioning (HVAC) products and solutions. He also sells wireless control systems for decentralized environments such as schools, churches, offices, etc. Kent lives in Goodyear, Arizona with his wife, Cindy, and their two rescue Labs, Nika and Iris.



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- *Alumni Spotlights: Kent Flaherty '78 and Jim Sauter '99*
- *Upcoming Chances to See Your Brothers*

FLASHBACK TO 1969

What Do You Remember about This Photo?



Greg West '72 and Jim Phipps '72 help Mike Fischer '70 prepare for a shave.

We recently found this photo (captioned **Greg West '72** and **Jim Phipps '72** help **Mike Fischer '70** prepare for a shave) in the 1969 edition of *The Makio*. Do you remember this moment or others like it? Can you tell us more about the story behind this photo?

If you're able, tell us about this photo by emailing alumninews@affinityconnection.com.

While you're at it, be sure to share your own photos! With today's technology—scanners, digital phones, and social media—more than ever before, we have the ability to easily preserve some of the best pictures from throughout Ohio Zeta's history.

Do you have old photos from your Phi Delt days tucked away in your drawer, packed away in your attic, or in a frame on your desk? Send them (with captions) to us at alumninews@affinityconnection.com or submit them online at www.ohiozeta.com.

UNDERGRAD SPOTLIGHT

Peter Obi '19, a Leader in Phi Delt and the IFC

Peter Obi (class of 2019) knew right away that Phi Delt was the fraternity for him.

"I came from out of state and went to the first rush event and just knew right away that it was a good fit," he says. "I chose it over other fraternities simply because I enjoyed the guys."

Peter is already excelling in the Greek world, demonstrating proven leadership skills in his positions as Secretary of the chapter and Vice President of Community Development for the Interfraternity Council.

Though he's new to Phi Delt, he's already reaping many of the trademark benefits of fraternity involvement.

"Phi Delt has helped me become a better leader and given me a valuable



Peter Obi '19

opportunity to represent something greater than myself," Peter says. "I'm proud to be a member because we have a great reputation on campus, as well as nationally, and I've gotten opportunities I wouldn't have had otherwise."

"I'm excited to be helping the IFC community with philanthropy and other community-wide issues," Peter says.

One brother, now an alumnus, particularly had a positive impact on Peter. "**James Bebbington '16** taught me the importance of brotherhood," Peter says, "and he's influenced me throughout my membership."

Peter has a few more years at Ohio State, during which he hopes to make a positive impact in Phi Delt. After graduation, he plans to utilize his accounting/finance degree and eventually join a respected firm.

"Phi Delt has helped me become a better leader and given me a valuable opportunity to represent something greater than myself."