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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?

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



Central Ohio Alumni Association of Phi Delta Theta

BUCKEYE PHI

www.ohiozeta.com Spring 2018

Ohio Zeta Chapter • The Ohio State University

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Major Robert Anderson '89 Learned Confidence and Leadership from Phi Delt

Greek Experience Helped Anderson Prepare for the Marines

For Major Robert Anderson, the decision to join the Greek system at The Ohio State University was practical. "After the second quarter of my Freshman year at The Ohio State University I realized I needed to get more involved in campus activities. The Greeks I met in classes where interesting people and I got along with them very well. They recommended I participate in Spring Rush. Out of all the houses I visited I was offered three bids and accepted Phi Delta Theta because my values and beliefs aligned with the brothers of Ohio Zeta."

That practical decision led to an amazing journey of public service and brotherhood, and Brother Anderson hasn't looked back. The brotherhood of Ohio Zeta impressed upon him virtues that he longed to emulate. "The brotherhood exhibited traits of Honor, Courage, and Commitment inside the house and on campus. I believe the greatest attribute which attracted me was the Esprit de Corp the brothers shared. This was the primary reason I joined the house."

These virtues have shaped Robert's life in ways he couldn't imagine. He believes that he learned more about life off campus, living at the house, than he ever would have on campus. For instance, it was the confidence he learned in the Phi Delta Theta house that helped him enlist in the Marine Corps, and then work toward becoming a Marine Officer. "The brothers didn't preach the traits of leadership, but lived them by example: Justice, judgement, dependability, initiative, tact, integrity, enthusiasm, unselfishness, courage, loyalty, and

endurance." Brother Anderson has used these traits of leadership serving across the globe in Somalia, Afghanistan, and Iraq as a United States Marine.



"Out of all the houses I visited I was offered three bids and accepted Phi Delta Theta because my values and beliefs aligned with the brothers of Ohio Zeta."

He fondly remembers the seasons of the fraternity year. "Fall was Rush and Buckeye football...and Spring was all about Greek week." The tight-knight group of Phi Deltas in those years were a "band of brothers" who found themselves united in brotherhood despite their differences.

Having retired from the Corps, Robert still finds himself busy. He met the love of his life, Mary, and now serves as a consultant for IBM, saving just enough time for "as many rounds of competitive golf" as humanly possible. He still keeps up with his Phi Delt brothers through social media, and has maintained a close friendship with brother

Donny Martin. Whenever he finds himself tailgating for the Buckeyes, the Phi Delta Theta brothers pick up where they left off. His wife Mary marvels at how close they all seem to be, and that closeness has been a gift to brother Anderson, and one he wants others to experience. "Every young person I meet, who is going to college, I recommend they look into the Greek system because of the positive impact it had on my life."

When asked how life at Ohio Zeta has changed his life, Robert offers this final reflection, "The traits that were initially instilled upon me at the fraternity and later burned into my soul by the Marine Corps have made me into the man I am today. I am very proud that I am a Phi Delt and a Marine."





SHARE YOUR MEMORIES

We know you have stories to tell, so what are you waiting for?

We often ask our members to share their stories and memories about their days with Phi Delt but with so MANY things to reminisce about, it is hard to decide what to share. That's why we have come up with a short set of questions in this article, meant to help us remember some of our best stories and some of the things we learned and took away from our experience with Phi Delt.

- What is your favorite memory from the Chapter?
- What was your favorite Chapter event during the Spring semester?
- Do you still keep in touch with any brothers? Who?
- Tell us about your career.
- What have you been up to since graduation (family, hobbies, etc)?



These days, thanks to our great alumni website www.ohiozeta.com we can go online any time we feel like it and let our brothers know what is going on in our lives. When you post your stories and updates to our alumni website, you may find yourself re-connecting with old friends you haven't spoken with in years if they see your submission. That's what this whole alumni program is about; engagement and connection with our oldest and dearest friends from some of the best times of our lives.

Please take some time with these questions and email your answers and memories to seth@affinityconnection.com our managing editor.

DONATION PROCESS UPDATE

Ways to Get Involved and Our New Executive Board



Alumni Relations/Brotherhood Chair Larry Manalo met with the Housing Corporation the week of January 29th 2018 to start setting up and official donation process that will allow for tax deductible donations to be made with receipts of donations processed and sent. In the meantime, any optional donations may be sent to the house address at 1942 Iuka Avenue, with checks made out to Phi Delta Theta.

Additionally, we would like to begin an Alumni/Active Chapter Relations Committee comprised of alumni who would like to become involved with Chapter activities that require alumni assistance. If you would like to help serve on this committee that I am looking to begin, please contact Larry Manalo at manalo.7@osu.edu or 412-552-8402.

We would also like to announce the members of our new Executive Board:

President

Peter Obi - obi.13@osu.edu
832-488-5915

Vice-President

Peter Crofut - crofut.5@osu.edu
717-983-6382

Treasurer

Sean Van De Weghe - vandeweghe.3@osu.edu
201-560-8643

Philanthropy Chair

Sam Magee - magee.102@osu.edu
614-745-7322

Alumni Relations/Brotherhood Chair

Larry Manalo - manalo.7@osu.edu
412-552-8402

SUSPENSION UPDATE

Alumni Events Continue Amidst Suspension of Greek Life



Many of you are already aware of the suspension levied against fraternity life at Ohio State in light of the conduct cases that were pending for 11 of Ohio State's 37 fraternities. Phi Delta Theta, during this suspension, has been recently approved for recruitment events, new member activities, and social events thanks to the punctuality and hard work of our current executive board in complying with new Ohio State fraternity policies. We also just recently finished rush week managing to recruit a pledge class of 28 sound Phikeia. Phi Delt is currently only one of three other large and notable fraternities at Ohio State with permission to hold social events.





WHY DO YOU GIVE TO PHI DELT?

Some Thoughts On Why We Still Give

Ohio Zeta thanks all of the Brothers who have given to our organization in the past, as well as this year. Have you ever asked yourself why you give? Is it part of your charitable routine? Do you believe in affording the next generation of men with the same experience you had with Ohio Zeta? Here are some reasons we collected from past surveys of other Phi Delta Theta members from various chapters around the country about why they have continued to give back to our organization:

"I Have always felt it an obligation...a form of "pay it forward," a "thank you" to those who preceded us by laying the foundation for a fraternity Chapter that let me be me and provide, I hope, for those to come after."

"After all of the experiences, the friends I made at Phi Delta Theta during my time there will stay my friends forever. I have to say that I'm proud of having been in Phi Delt and that I want to encourage an environment that further fosters the same experiences for generations to come."

"I thoroughly enjoyed my college years as a member of Phi Delta Theta,

and continue many of the friendships made as a direct result of that membership. When I meet up with a brother, the connection is still felt. I am thankful for my experience, and realize that it was only possible because of the investment of time and money from many previous members who built and maintained the facility. For this, I feel a responsibility to contribute to the continuation of Phi Delt on campus. Additionally, many youths coming to college have not been taught many of the details of "doing and living", and need to learn the requirements of responsible self-governance. Greek life can and does contribute to that learning experience."

"After all these years I am still active as an alumni volunteer. The chapter was the basis for my loyalty and brotherhood - I have learned that Phi Delta Theta is not just an undergraduate "thing" but a lifetime of making friends and maintaining relationships."

So what are YOUR reasons? Let us know by visiting the website and clicking on "Alumni Corner."

CHAPTER EVENTS – BUCKEYETHON

Ohio Zeta Participates Again in Annual Fundraiser

Buckeyethon 2018, Ohio State's premier philanthropy event to raise money for cancer research, was held this year on February 9-10, 2018. Phi Delt had a team enrolled in the philanthropy event and this year, in conjunction with Kappa Delta's team, we raised over \$27,000.



The Buckeye Phi

THANK YOU DONORS!

2017-18 Annual Giving Year

Thank you to all alumni donors who have already made their gift for the 2017-18 annual fund. As a reminder, the annual fund runs from September 1 through August 31 each year, and supports alumni communications and events, house renovations, and chapter resources on a yearly basis.

Make Your Gift

1. Log on to www.ohiozeta.com and click on Donate in the upper right-hand corner
2. Call 800-975-6699
3. Mail a check payable to "Phi Delta Theta – Ohio State University" to:

Alumni Relations Processing Center
P.O. Box 7007 Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007

Thank You!

A special thanks to the alumni who made gifts early in 2017-18!

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

Jeffrey Gudenkauf 1968
Patrick Hylant 1970

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

John Luce 1965
Grant Douglass 1983
Glenn Alban 1988
Steven Julian 1989
Randall Gerber 1990

1848 Society (\$250 - \$499.99)

Charles Humbert 1953
Richard McCabe 1953
James Hartley 1957
Philip Brewer 1958





Phi Delta Theta

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CHAPTER GRAND UPDATE

Niels E. Christiansen '66



We regret to inform Phi Delt alumni that Brother **Niels E. Christiansen '66** entered Chapter Grand on December 7, 2017.

L-R: Doug Smith '67, Gary Colburn Aker '66 and Niels Christiansen '66

PHI DELT WORLD WAR II HERO

Do You Know the Story of JFK, Lenny Thom and PT-109?



You may have heard the story of Phi Delt brother, football star and war hero **Leonard "Lenny" Thom '40**. Brother Thom was second-in-command to John F. Kennedy and one of the heroes of PT-109. Kennedy is of course, remembered in this story for towing an injured man to safety after PT-109 was rammed by a Japanese Destroyer in 1943 during World War II. Historian Michael Bell argues that

Brother Thom should have more recognition for the part he played in the eventual rescue of the crew. You can read more about it here: <http://www.petertare.org/americanhero/body.htm>

If you have a story about a Phi Delt brother that you feel should be recognized or profiled, let us know by visiting www.ohiozeta.com.

FLASHBACK PHOTOS NEEDED

Your Gamma Upsilon Brothers Want to See Your Old Pictures!

There is a reason you have kept that shoe box full of old pictures from your fraternity days under the bed all these years. Now is the time to let all of your brothers see and enjoy your personal archives. Going through old pictures is a great way to remember people and places you may have forgotten about and get back in touch with those whom you may want to reconnect.



Fortunately for all of you, Gamma Upsilon has a great alumni website where you can submit your stories and pictures immediately for everyone to see. It has been awhile since any of you have gone on and given us an update and we would like to see that change. One of the things that helps programs like this flourish is the contributions of its members.

Not just monetarily, but with memories that help to tell the history of our time at Miami University.

It's OK if you have spent a few years without reaching out. Ohio Zeta has always been here and always will be so send us a photo and help the history of our brotherhood live on for many years to come!

MEN'S HEALTH

Why Strong Graduate Connections are Good for Your Health

Recently, The Boston Globe published an article with a pretty shocking headline... "The biggest threat facing middle-age men isn't smoking or obesity. It's loneliness."

Work and family take precedence as we age, and maintaining friendships becomes more of an option than a necessity. The weekend trips, grabbing a beer after work, and football tailgates fade away just gradually enough that we don't realize it. Without strong friendships, men's health suffers.

According to the article, loneliness has been linked to an increased risk of cardiovascular disease and stroke and the progression of Alzheimer's. One study found that it can be as much of a long-term risk factor as smoking.



It's not too late to turn it around... we're here for each other.

Thanks to Ohio Zeta Chapter, you have many friends—brothers, in fact—with whom you already share common bonds. Being a member of Phi Delt is a lifelong privilege, so take advantage of your membership. Reconnect with brothers, revitalize your friendships. Come to an event, check out headquarters events in your area, or use our online directory to look up that brother you haven't talked to in years. Get In. Touch. Don't wait. Do it now. Thanks to the generosity of our graduate network, the tools you need are all right here.

And remember, our graduate network can only survive if we have loyal support from our graduates. Your annual gift helps fund our communications programs and networking tools available to you, like our website. If you haven't made your gift yet this year, please donate today to ensure our program lives on to serve you and your fellow brothers!