

ALUMNI OFFICERS

President
Bruce Rothermund

Vice President
Keith Davis

Housing Corp. President
Scott Armstrong

HOW TO USE THE DIRECTORY

Connect with Brothers during this time of Social Distancing

#1.

Go to www.ohiozeta.com

#2.

Log in on the right-hand side under **"Welcome"**

#3.

Along the top of the website, hover over the **"Connect"** tab and click **"Search Members"**

#4.

Search by name, employer, nickname, state and more!
It's that easy! Don't wait.
Reconnect today!



Central Ohio Alumni Association of Phi Delta Theta

BUCKEYE PHI

www.ohiozeta.com

Spring 2020

Ohio Zeta Chapter • The Ohio State University

A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR OHIO ZETA CHAPTER

Looking Ahead to All the Future Holds for The Phoenix

As some of you may have already heard, the Ohio Zeta Chapter has been suspended by the university until August 2024. This resulted from a hazing allegation in August of 2019 stemming from the Fall 2018 initiation.

Following a university and General Headquarters investigation, the Chapter was found to be in violation of fraternity and university policies. While no alcohol or drugs were involved and no one was physically injured, the use of line-ups, PT, errand running and initiates asked to stay at the fraternity house during the final days of initiation was sufficient for the university take the suspension action. Following an appeal that was denied, the General Headquarters has revoked the Chapter's charter for a period. The sanctions include having the sophomore students living in the house move back into university campus housing and all functions of the fraternity to cease. Given recent very tragic incidents at fraternities, any hazing allegation, whether injurious or not, will bring the sort of sanctions imposed.

As part of the process, prior to the university investigation decision and as part of the appeal, the Chapter along with alumni offered numerous self-imposed sanctions to move toward positive change, not just at Ohio Zeta but campus-wide. While that offer was not accepted, the following closing summary of the alumni appeal letter includes thoughts and insights that were shared and agreed upon, which we believe go to the heart of the matter.

"In summary, we recognize that the Chapter behavior was inappropriate and



we, along with the Chapter, are disappointed, embarrassed and apologize for the actions. At no time was there any intent to cause harm or injury to anyone; rather misguidedly the actions were thought to build a stronger bond among members,

giving new members a feeling that they had achieved something special as a full active member. There are clearly better ways. As alumni of Ohio State, we, along with the active Chapter, want to be part of the solution — not part of the problem. Our members and alumni are devoted to our university and seek the opportunity to make a real and sustainable difference. We ask the university to accept this genuine offer for change. We are anxious to work closely with the university to address change. Working together, we can make a significant difference."

That's where we've been. Moving forward, there are a number of alumni who have engaged with the undergraduate members to assist in the orderly transition resulting from the sanctions. We are working to remain as a viable rooming house for the foreseeable future. Through the end of the spring semester we seek to have 19 current juniors and seniors remain in the house and then beginning in the fall, potentially rent the house to other non-Phi students. Much has to be worked out for this to be accomplished. We urgently need interested alumni to step forward and be part of the team.

Longer term, as the Phoenix, we look forward to a bright future for Ohio Zeta at Ohio State.

137 YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP, SOUND LEARNING AND RECTITUDE

Embodying the Phi Delta Theta Values Isn't Easy Alone, But the Support of Our Zeta Brothers Makes It Possible

Nearly 138 years ago, a group of Brothers got together at Ohio State University and decided they wanted to pursue the highest levels of friendship, sound learning and rectitude. They felt well-equipped to cultivate, maintain and promote these core values and — you know what? — they absolutely were. That's why, 137 years later, the Zeta chapter of Phi Delta Theta at Ohio State University is still going strong and our vision remains to cultivate, maintain and promote our core values. That vision may even be what attracted you to the chapter.

Of course, you know now, that it was this vision that allowed the Phi Delta Theta Zeta Chapter to provide our Brothers with tremendous value in terms of enhancing the collegiate experience and then, after college, enhancing each Brother's life for years to come. The Zeta fraternity house produces men of character: caring husbands, compassionate fathers and community leaders — men who embody those ideals of friendship, sound learning and rectitude.

That's why Greek life still matters, why we still need fraternities for our young men and why we still need engagement opportunities for our alumni of all ages. No matter the walk of life, personal goals or background, qualities like friendship, sound learning and rectitude are



what separates the men from the boys. They set us apart as Brothers and equip us to lead our communities and families with character.

But we can't do it alone.

We rely on our amazing volunteers and alumni members. Because of all of these hard-working, dedicated individuals (not the University and not National!), who make a concentrated effort to embody the Phi Delta Theta characteristics and keep the Brotherhood — actives and alumni both — accountable, we've been able to continuously turn out generations of leaders

from a fraternity house that we proudly own and call home.

Our vision is still to become the preeminent collegiate leadership development organization — aligned, focused and living our core values — and to develop values-based leaders committed to the betterment of character, campus and community. Make sure you keep sight of this vision, whether you graduated five or 50 years ago. After all, we all have big shoes to fill, as we strive to make that 1883 incoming class of Brothers proud.

Reconnect with your Brothers and the Phi Delta Theta mission and values. It starts with a visit to our chapter website, www.ohiozeta.2stayconnected.com.

THE HEALTH BENEFITS OF A THRIVING BROTHERHOOD

Why to Prioritize Your Phi Delta Theta Events This Year

The relationships that surround us are one of the most important keys to our enjoyment of life. We have communities that follow us through several seasons and those that come and go with our ever-changing lives. We hope you regard your Phi Delta Theta Brothers as those who are there for the long-haul. We all carry on with our lives away from the Ohio State campus that brought us together, but the Brotherhood formed there lasts forever. Yet, often, we men suck at staying connected. And now more than ever, your health depends on it.

Science is Proving Our Need for Relationship

We are built for relationship and science is beginning to show just how important it is to both our short-term and long-term health. *The Harvard Health* newsletter in their "*The health benefits*

of strong relationships" article highlights the importance of social communities.

"Social connections ... influence our long-term health in ways every bit as powerful as adequate sleep, a good diet, and not smoking. Dozens of studies have shown that people who have social support from family, friends, and their community are happier, have fewer health problems, and live longer."

The good news is, engaging with your community — in this case, the Phi Delta Theta Brotherhood — is much easier than eating well, exercising and dropping your daily cigarette habit. By regularly engaging with your Brothers through social media, alumni events and reunions, you can continue the common thread of community that brought you together in the first place and reap the health benefits in your life.

If that's not enough, you're also

proven to be happier now, by reliving positive memories, which we have in excess as Phi Delta Theta alum.

Changing Times

In response to COVID-19, many cities across the country have urged residents to partake in social distancing. This can make getting in contact with friends rather difficult, even impossible. Now, more than ever, is the time to connect with your Phi Delta Brothers over the phone, through email or however else you may choose to connect online. Review the instructions on page 1 to see how you can utilize our online directory to connect with Brothers. Take advantage of the natural community Phi Delta Theta creates. Brotherhood is a community you can count on for support, mentorship, friendship and now, a healthier, more meaningful life.

A PHI DELT PHOTO'S WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS



Can't find the right words to share your Phi Delt story? Share your memories with a photo instead.

We have a ton of amazing photos from over the decades up on the Phi Delt alumni website. Check out your Brothers in their finest 80s attire, sporting their most stylish sideburns or...well, whatever's going on in these photos.

Find more photos at www.ohiozeta.com and submit your best Phi Delt photos for inclusion in the next newsletter or eletter, by emailing alumninews@affinityconnection.com.



FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Thank You, Donors!

Congratulations to the following Brothers who have already shown their support for Ohio Zeta this year! Please join them in supporting Phi Delta Theta by making your contribution today! Reflects gifts received from September 1, 2019 through March 1, 2020.

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

James Wyland 1973

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

David Hickey 1982

1848 Society (\$250 - \$499.99)

Richard McCabe 1953
Frederick Blesi 1959
Henry Green 1964
John Schoedinger 1964

Richard Moody 1976
Leland Moree 1981
Robert Sperry 1984
David Lawrence Straub 1990

1942 Iuka Ave Society (\$194.20)

A Smith 1952
Ronald Bell 1964
James List 1972
John Jacobs 1984
Darren Hissong 1984
Rob Anderson 1989
Steven Julian 1989

Azure Club (\$100 - \$194.19)

Lawrence Wright 1955
David Howe 1962
John Anderson 1963
Thomas Holton 1964
Randy Thrasher 1964
Richard Baker 1967
Thomas McFadden 1967

Lawrence Hilditch 1969
Robert Sallade 1972
G Gano 1973
James Yavorcik 1976
Mark Mesec 1978
Martin Majka 1983
David Lickovitch 1984
Brian Bandi 1986
Brian McKee 1992

Argent Club (\$50-\$99.99)

Charles Wright 1976



Phi Delta Theta THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

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- [Chapter Update](#)
- [Honor Roll](#)

THE LOST

Some Phi Delt Alumni Have Lost Touch Help Get These Brothers Reconnected



How would you feel if you were left out of the loop when it comes to Phi Delt? Of our 1,692 active alumni members, we have just 797 email addresses. That means that just under half of our alumni aren't receiving our emails—and therefore are left completely out of the loop.

With one simple action, you can make sure your brothers are receiving news about events (like homecoming) and where other alumni are today. Please take a few minutes to review our lost email list at the bottom of the homepage of www.ohiozeta.com. If you have a valid email address for any of these brothers, simply click on their name. An email will pop up for you to type in their email address. Then click send! We'll then add them to our email list.

**Rest assured that your information is stored in a secure database and is never sold or traded.*

HAVE YOU REGISTERED ON THE ALUMNI WEBSITE?

www.ohiozeta.com

Brotherhood is unique. We spend four years on a college campus with our fraternity Brothers, and as a result, we have a community for a lifetime. We want to make the most of those connections.

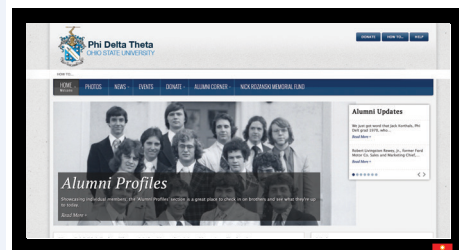
Our Brotherhood has a reach that extends across the country. It provides a resourceful network of support, professions and community.

We have provided an **online forum** on our website for you to connect with other alumni. By utilizing the alumni website, you can stay in contact with Brothers wherever life after graduation took them.

Register online for our password-protected platform, so you can **upload photos, utilize the searchable directory, and read and provide updates.**

Visit the alumni page and get connected today!

Register online and start the conversation that has been years in the making!



To Get Current News, Share Memories,

**See the Honor Roll
AND TO DONATE!**

Visit Our Website:

www.ohiozeta.com