

Fall 2001

# The Clef

Mu Beta Psi, National Honorary Musical Fraternity

## I Am Mu Beta Psi

by Ryan Hauck, NVPE and Delta Alumnus

When you were initiated into Mu Beta Psi, you accepted certain responsibilities over and above being a mere Brother. Most of us have had the experience at some point where we—as an individual—represented the entire Fraternity all by ourselves. Whether it was interacting with a professor, running a fundraiser, or recruiting students, it was a situation where your actions could make or break the reputation of your Chapter. Every word you said and action you took reflected on all of Mu Beta Psi. Sound familiar? If it doesn't, it will eventually. In many ways, you as a Brother represent the whole Fraternity, all the time, to the campus around you.

I believe that the "Mu Beta Psi Image" is something that we as Brothers must be conscious of at all times, especially when we interact with administration, faculty or students. One misconception or slip of the tongue can do significant damage to your Chapter's relationship with the music department. For example, how many of us have heard Mu Beta Psi accused of being "cliquish"? I can raise my hand. Delta used to be notorious for acting like a clique. Since our shared experiences as Brothers were not common to the rest of the students, people around us felt excluded...and so we unwittingly became a clique to them. Had we made an explicit effort to reach out to other band members to include them, that reputation might have evaporated.

As other examples, how many of us have been overheard in a hallway saying something negative about a music professor...and the next day that professor is anti-Psi? How many of us have to constantly fight the impression that Psi is full of people with bad attitudes? If the same four people are the only ones showing up to 90% of the Chapter service projects, won't it eventually look like the rest of the Chapter just doesn't care? How many

pledges have been driven away by one person's bad day? And how many of us have been wearing our letters when we snuck in late to a music rehearsal? All these situations are normal, random occurrences—we all have bad days and we all keep our own opinions but as a Brother, we are no longer "normal" students. We symbolize Mu Beta Psi, officially and unofficially, and as such we should hold to a higher standard. We must strive to represent ourselves in the best possible manner at all times. A careless word, a bad attitude, a tardy to music rehearsal—people outside of the Fraternity notice these things. We must be vigilant to make sure that we do not appear lazy, or bitter, or elite, or hard to get along with.

For a while now, whenever I have thought of my relationship to my alma mater, I have repeated the phrase "I Am Clemson". I represent Clemson as a graduate, a donor, and a fan. When people see me, I want them to have a positive image of Clemson because of me—and more than anything, I want to avoid portraying Clemson negatively. I think we should apply this concept to our Fraternity. We should all think to ourselves, "I Am Mu Beta Psi." When you step into those shoes, you almost automatically become more cognizant of your actions and the conceptions of people around you. I encourage you to be not just a Brother of Mu Beta Psi, but Mu Beta Psi itself. And show yourself in a manner in which you believe our fraternity should be seen. Go out of your way to volunteer for a project or a fund-raiser; go out of your way to engage a faculty member, or to intro-

duce yourself to students in the hall-way. When you \*become\* Mu Beta Psi, you will act towards the greater good of the Fraternity and help the organization aspire to the ideals on which we were founded. I Am Mu Beta Psi. Are you?



## **NVPE Quickie**

by Ryan Hauck

## **National President's Report**

by Jonathon R. Fielbrandt

I honestly have not heard much from the Chapters or National Officers since our last issue of *The Clef.* I have been busy discussing with Zeta their plans for the 2002 National Convention. Future activities for me include working with BOT Vice Chairman Bryan Reamer on the solicitation of goals as per the new Strategic Planning Policy and the start-up of the monthly NEC meetings.

If anyone has any issues dealing with the National Organization or their Chapter, please feel free to e-mail them to me. I am more than willing to help in anyway I can. I am actually a little bored, as the Presidency has by no measure the amount of daily duties as the position of Secretary.

On a personal note, I have been elected a Trustee of my union. Our board of trustees serves as the executive body of the organization, including 5 trustees, a president, and a vice president. I look forward to the challenges this new position brings my way.

Again, if you have any issues needing attention, please feel free to e-mail me at fielbran@mail.wcs.k12.mi.us , however I only read the e-mails Monday through Friday. Please remember that when expecting a response. And as always, MAY BROTHERHOOD PREVAIL!

OK! I've done two reports in a row in less than 250 words! Can I keep up the streak?

On November 8-11, I will be travelling to New Orleans to give a presentation to Loyola University. By the time you read this, chances are I will have been there and back, hopefully claiming a successful trip. We're trying to convince Loyola to choose Mu Beta Psi over Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia. The decision will be made at the end of November. Wish us luck! I am confident we will be able to convince Loyola that we are the best Fraternity for their university. Let's gear up for a colonization in Spring 2002!

There are some other projects in the works, at schools ranging from New York to Virginia to Michigan. Nothing solid has developed yet but I'm hoping to nail down a solid lead by the beginning of the Spring semester.

I have had the high privilege of serving Mu Beta Psi for six years as National Vice-President of Expansion. It has been a long and rewarding journey that I will always treasure. While I haven't ruled out the possibility of running again at Convention 2002, I want to encourage other Brothers to think about taking this job. Please contact me if you think you might like to take over.

And I think that's it! Count 'em up, that's 231 words! Till next time...May Brotherhood Prevail.



## **Offices Opening at Convention 2002**

by Ryan Hauck, NVPE

As we approach the next Convention, it becomes time for Brothers to consider how they can best serve our Fraternity. For some Brothers, this means running for one of our National Offices. At Convention 2002, the offices that are open for election are President, VP of Expansion, Treasurer, and Editor of *the Clef.* 

I believe that serving as a National Officer is one of the best ways to gain an appreciation and love for Mu Beta Psi on a truly national level. My experiences have taken me to every Chapter and have made me friends at each of them. They have opened my eyes to the challenges, successes, and personalities of Mu Beta Psi throughout our organization. I feel that I am a better Brother because of my years of dealing with individuals from all of our Chapters.

As a current officer, I encourage anyone interested in these offices to put his or her name in for nomination. We are always in need of dedicated Brothers who feel they have something to contribute to the National Fraternity; we are always looking for effective leaders who can help us to become a stronger Fraternity in the 21st century. I hope to see all the open offices contested this year, as I believe the healthy competition spurs innovative ideas and promotes responsibility once a person is elected.

If you are considering running for a National Office, please don't hesitate to contact the person currently in that office for advice and information; you are also welcome to contact other officers and ex-officers.

#### From The Chairman...

by Dr. Benjamin Griffeth

Brothers.

What a challenge we have been presented in the last 7 months. The expansion of our ranks while tremendous and promising raises the questions of the internal strength of this union. As strange as this might sound, this is at least one of the thoughts I had while serving aboard the USNS COMFORT in New York (14 Sep-2 Oct). Most of us have had some form of "Well what does this mean to me since..." Mine happened while I was reading my e-mail from friends, family and Brothers. I realized that this Fraternity does matter to me and to others. Ladies and Gentlemen, we need to look beyond ourselves to find our importance. From scholarships to education, from spaghetti suppers to campus orientation, we provide services that mean something to others. This no less than what I tried to offer by riding a big white hospital ship into New York harbor. As such, I offer the following as my quarterly update and statement of intent.

This Fraternity is starting to build into something great. I did not foresee it when I was nominated to the BOT; neither did some of my colleagues in National offices. Three people did and they continue to lead by an example that I hope to attain though this goal to meet the Chapters on their level. I wish to say that I am renewing my interests in working for my Brothers. I will be offering to schedule trips to Chapters within driving distance (sorry, Zeta, I will have to see you at/prior to convention) to assist/advise/argue about any issue/Brother/office. I do this because I feel that this is needed. I will not call you (besides to say hi) because I do not want to be Big Brother. My job calls me to lead by advice and example. I hope to use this letter to "call out" my fellow officers to follow this example.

As always, I may be contacted (even Collect) at work (301-295-2689) or at home (301-527-0556) anytime. I check bgriffeth@pol.net everyday to every other.

Brotherhood Will Prevail. ben

There is a destiny that makes us brothers, No one goes his way alone; All that we send into the lives of others, Comes back into our own.

-- Edwin Markham

#### **NVPCM: The Chronicles**

by Birmagidra Marie Gainor Parrott

Ok, maybe the chronicle. At any rate, this is just an update of sorts, as my quarterly report will be out later in the semester (right after Thanksgiving). My notes for now:

- 1. I thank everyone who has contacted me already with information on how things are going. Please keep up the good work of letting me know what is going on around the country.
- 2. Yes, there will be detailed reports due to me at the end of the semester. Please pick the victim, I mean author, of those now.
- 3. I have been working with a couple of chapters on internal issues and feel like I am making progress. If anyone needs me to come out to a chapter, or at least talk to multiple members of a chapter, please let me know and I will endeavor to do that.

That's all for now. Please everyone keep me in mind if you need anything chapter or individual wise as far as MBPsi goes!

Just so my updated contact information is in print:

405-1 Lindsay Rd. Clemson, SC 29631 864-653-7399

sleeq@bellsouth.net ICQ#7040194

I hope everyone has a fantastic end of the semester, and look forward to talking to more of you as the year progresses towards convention.

## **National Secretary's Report**

by Ali Ely

I have been on hiatus over the summer. It was a muchneeded break from the Fraternity for me. I am getting back in the swing of things, and I am about to implement some necessary changes to the process of submitting required items to the National Secretary. Among these will be electronically submitted address lists.

I received only a handful of active address lists. None arrived by the deadline, and none were complete. I recommend that each MAL review the Information Policy in detail to be sure you are aware of exactly what items need to be submitted. Please be sure that you have submitted address lists, and active Brothers Lists with dues. Initiation reports for Chapters conducting pledge training are due by December 30th along with initiation fees. Please send in the form and money before you break for the holidays to avoid missing the deadline.

# Chapter Reports

## Alpha Chapter

By Alana Kirby, Alpha MAL

Alpha Chapter's focus has shifted recently, reflecting the changing fortunes of the NCSU Music Department and Arts programs. Thanks to recent budget cuts for the entire North Carolina university system, our music department has been forced to cut back on spending, including closing Price Music Center on the weekends, charging students a music fee, and reducing the number of ensembles offered. In response, we increased our focus on advertising the existence of our department, hosted and paid for a music department picnic, and supported a student fee increase that would go towards all of the Arts programs here at NC State. Our efforts have been helped enormously by our group of new advisors: Alex Miller, Associate to the Vice Chancellor for Arts Program, and Director of University Scholars; Claire Eaton, Administrative Assistant to Alex Miller; and Dr. Randy Foy, director of Raleigh Civic Symphony and Chamber Orchestra.

Aside from that, our semester is progressing as normal. A Brother's lock-in in early September kicked off the semester for Brotherhood committee, and they are now working on a camping or rafting trip, in addition to our weekly Brotherhood activities. Publicity Committee will be creating posters and advertisements for this semester's concerts, as well as working on a banner for Homecoming. Drafting a Psi Room policy is the primary goal of Rules Committee right now, and examining Special Active status is next on the list. Computer-Website Committee oversaw the purchase of our very own copier, and is now working on big plans for a website designed to be a source of information about all kinds of music on NC State's Campus. Scholarship is working with the family of Duane Evans, a recently deceased Brother, in whose honor this year's scholarship is named. We are proud to announce that our scholarship fund contains more than half of the \$10,000 amount required for endowment, thanks to the kindness of many Alumni Brothers! Music In Our Schools is planning to approach nearby elementary schools and offer presentations in music classes, as well as continuing our new tradition of Family Music Day next semester. Our History and Archives Committee has been researching Campus Tour with an eye to creating a well documented guidebook for next year. And of course, we've been serving up apples at football games, setting up and taking down for concerts, and putting up lots of flyers and table tents.

On a sadder note, our pledge class of three dwindled over the course of pledging, until our last pledge decided that she no longer had the time to make a serious commitment to Psi. We are disappointed, of course, but we hope to spend extra time this semester and work on advertising, so that we can have a large pledge class next semester. We look forward to seeing the initiations of some of the other Chapters, and we can't wait for Convention next year!

## **Zeta Chapter**

By Erin M. Bates, Zeta Secretary

Fall semester brought change to Michigan Tech as well as to Zeta Chapter. With cuts in funding for public universities as well as budget problems, Michigan Tech has cut back on funding for the fine arts. Zeta shifted gears slightly to step up and help wherever we can. While still helping out with the moving of musical equipment, advertising, and ushering for events at the Rozsa Center and McArdle Theatre, Brothers are now seen behind the scenes, actually running Fine Arts shows as well as helping setup and tear-down for many events. These added responsibilities are keeping Zeta Brothers incredibly busy.

We are continuing to be active in the community with the Calumet Theatre's Club Indigo. Brothers spend time in Calumet at least once a month bringing fine food and films to the Keweenaw. We are also beginning work on the proposed "Musician's Connection" -- a database and billboard system to connect local musicians together.

Unfortunately, we do not have a pledge class this semester, though we do have a few prospectives for next semester. We are using our extra time preparing for Convention in April. The Convention Committee is hard at work to ensure that Convention 2002 is an awesome experience here in the Copper Country.

We are always welcome to visitors from other Chapters! If you are interested in visiting Zeta Chapter, contact our President, Becca Schlobohm (raschlob@mtu.edu), MAL Benjamin Craig (bccraig@mtu.edu, or Secretary Erin Bates (embates@mtu.edu).

# Chapter Reports

## Mu Chapter

By Ryan Ong, Mu MAL

Mu Chapter has had a good semester here in Chapel Hill, continuing to define and expand our niche on campus and with the Music department.

Our small but dedicated Rho pledge class is coming along rather nicely this semester, with two enthusiastic pledges slowly but surely learning all the tools they will need to become active Brothers in Psi. As I sit down to write this, I have just come back from attending their paddle party and Big Brother/Little Brother bash, generously hosted by our "all-Psi apartment" (Brothers Rachel Sutton, Alycen Ashburn, and Brian Strickland).

Some Mu Brothers were also delighted to get the chance to travel down to Delta Chapter over Labor Day weekend to help Delta with their pledge process. Mu's Jonny Chen and Ryan Ong joined Brothers from Delta and Alpha in a weekend that turned out to be fun for all involved.

Our committees have also been exceedingly busy this past semester. Social Committee has been planning a variety of different activities to try to get the Brotherhood together more often, including an institution of the "Butt Buddies" program, in which two random brothers are required to meet during the week, and the "Five-Dollar Fridays," for all the Brothers who, like typical college students, are low on cash. Membership Committee saw the induction of two honorary Brothers last spring: Paul Cole and Joe Lowman, both faculty in the UNC music department. Service Committee has been working on scheduling ushering and concert help dates with the Music Department, Company Carolina (our campus theater group), and many of the campus musical groups.

Mu's other big event, currently planned for very early next semester, is our first-ever campus music jam. Though still in the planning stages, we are planning on hosting most of the campus a cappella groups as well as some of the local step groups. We are also hoping to help donate some portion of proceeds from this event towards the efforts following the September 11<sup>th</sup> attack.

## Nu Chapter

By Rebecca Sutter, Nu MAL

Well as usual, us up north in New York State at Nu Chapter are a bunch of busy beavers in our (of course) cold weather. This semester, the department's major piece being worked on is Beethoven's 9th. The Brotherhood is involved in many ways - from moving instruments to ushering. We also have maintained the normal jobs as well-watering pianos, putting posters up, and helping the staff in anyway possible. We have also helped in hosting duties with a few acts that have journeyed to the north, here in Oswego.

Our chapter has six pledges this semester and the six gals are doing great! Things are doing well on the financial end of things. We have had one very successful fund raiser in the form of a car wash at the beginning of the semester that made over \$170.00! Currently, we are having a pledge fund-raiser. They are raking lawns for \$5 a lawn. Also, there is a practice marathon that is currently running. As a side project, we are collecting funds to send to the NYC relief fund. We have been very successful in our fund raisers so far this semester and we look forward to that continued success. On the horizon for next semester, we may be planning a Brotherhood/ faculty concert and possibly a "Brotherhood Auction." We will most definitely have another practice marathon next semester and we may try to plan another car wash at the end of the spring semester (get all that yucky NY state salt off!). We definitely have lots of plans. We just hope that we can fit them all in!

## Xi Chapter

by Michael Allen, MAL

This semester has been quite interesting thus far for the brothers of Xi Chapter. Xi is preparing to celebrate its 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on November 17<sup>th</sup>. In the plans for this semester is a nice dinner to celebrate the anniversary with a more formal celebration weekend in the plans for early next semester. Xi also has a few other major undertakings in planning. Roughly three fourths of Xi's brotherhood is participating in a student-sponsored production of Godspell, which will open in late November. Xi brothers have also helped usher

Xi continued on page 8...

## Meet the Board of Trustees

Ever wondered who those people are on the infamous BOT? Well, they are more than just names you memorize when you pledge. Here are short autobiographies of three Permanent Members of the BOT. Read about them now, meet them at Convention in April!

## **Benjamin Griffeth**

Greetings from the Nation's capital. As the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, it is my pleasure to say "thank you for allowing me to serve". I have served as the CBOT for the last year and a half and have been the membership advisor for the Board since elected to that august body. I have been a Chapter president and feel that I can offer advise and leadership to all.

Currently, I am a navy psychiatrist working at National Naval Medical center, the President's Own. I have an active worksite and an active homelife with my wife of 9 years (Amanda) and a 2 year old daughter (Allie).

I am available at all times for controversial, legal or esoteric questions. I LOVE to talk with Brothers. I can be reached at work (0600-1600 EST; 301-295-2689) or at home (301-527-0556). I use two e-mail sites; bgriffeth@pol.net or sychdoc@alum.wofford.org. I look forward to your contacts and will see you in April.

## **Gayle Kirby**

Hi all! Many of the "older" Brothers know a bunch about me, but there are many new Brothers who do not know much about me. I am Gayle Kirby, and I am a Permanent Member of the Board of Trustees. I have been a Brother of Mu Beta Psi since



Spring, 1987 when I pledged Zeta Chapter at Michigan Technological University. While at Michigan Tech, I received a Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering and graduated Summa Cum Laude in 4 years (just ask anyone at Tech why this is special). During this time, I was active at the Chapter level in Mu Beta Psi, serving on and chairing several committees. Additionally, I served on the dorm council and as a Residence Hall Management Assistant.

After graduating from Tech, I didn't become re-active in Mu Beta Psi until 1992, when I was elected National Secretary at the 1992 National Convention. I was the  $P_{age\ 6}^{AE}$ 

first person to hold this office after the splitting of the National Executive Secretary position into three separate positions. I held the National Secretary office for 3 years, and during that time, organized the office substantially, so that we had a much better handle on our records and our policies and procedures. I created the Policy Manuals, and was key in the combining of our National By-Laws and National Constitution into one document that you know today as the National Constitution.

At the end of my term of office as National Secretary, I was recommended for, and accepted, a Permanent Board of Trustees position at the 1995 National Convention. While serving as a Permanent Member of the Board of Trustees, I held the Maintenance and Expansion Advisor role from 1995 - 1998, and the Records Management Advisor role from 1998 to the present. Also during my tenure, I have served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees from 1996 to 1999.

During the time that I was serving on the National level, I was also serving at the Chapter level, in the Alumni Association. There, I held the office of Alumni Association Historian from 1993 - 1994, and Alumni Association Vice President from 1995 - 1999.

Musically, I have played clarinet since fourth grade, winning many awards and honors along the way. I played in both the Symphonic and Marching bands at Birmingham Seaholm High School. While at Michigan Tech, I played in both the Symphonic band as well as the (world?) renowned Michigan Tech Pep Band. Once I graduated, I got a job in Ohio and played in the Findlay, Ohio Flag City USA Civic Concert Band. With that band, we traveled to the Pacific Basin and represented the US in the International Music Festival in 1992. We played in such awesome venues as the Sydney Opera House, as well as some smaller venues in New Zealand and Hawaii. After moving back to Michigan, I played in community bands for a couple years before hanging up my "band" hat. I still pick up my horn to doodle every now and again, and still try to get to the Michigan Tech Great Lakes Invitational Hockey Tournament every December to play in the Pep Band.

On a personal note, I am 33 years old and single. I am an Information Technology Manager at General Motors, and have been employed there for almost 7 years. I own my own home in Troy, MI (my hometown) and drive a company car (gotta love the free car!). I'm very active in volleyball, biking, softball and yoga, and spend my "down" time with my friends and family, or working on my house.

I think that this is all you ever wanted to know about me, but were afraid to ask. And if you're not afraid to ask, feel free to drop me a line, at gayle324@bww.com.



## **Timothy Kudlock**

For many of you, I am merely a name that you have had to memorize when pledging the fraternity. With some unfortunate absences over the past couple of years, I have not had the chance to meet many of you, except through e-mail, so this is a great place to at

least let me introduce myself to you and provide some background of my involvement with the fraternity over the past 16 years.

On the Fraternity level, I pledged Mu Beta Psi at Delta Chapter in the Fall of 1985. While at Clemson pursuing an undergraduate and graduate degree in Accounting, I served the Fraternity as Chapter Vice President for two years and was very active in the Fraternity and its purposes. During the 1988 National Convention, I was elected Editor of *The Clef*, a position which I held during my graduate year at Clemson.

During the 1989 National Convention, I was elected National President, a position which I deemed to be one of the highest honors I have attained to date. I was reelected in 1990 and served until 1991.

In 1992, I was elected/appointed as a Permanent member of the Board Of Trustees. In 1994, I was elected Chairman of the Board, and two months later, I became Interim National Treasurer, as well, with the resignation of then Treasurer Sonia Morrow. I served as both Chairman and Interim National Treasurer for two years until which time Neil Duncan was elected Treasurer in 1996. I was also elected Treasurer of the Alumni Association in 1994 (or somewhere in there!).

Somewhere during this time, I proposed the structuring of the PBOT to serve in advisory positions. Up to that time, the PBOT had no defined duties, and there was no set plan to accomplish any of the things we always "complained" about. I established the advisory positions of Finance, Legal, Chapter Expansion/ Maintenance, and Constitution/Bylaws.

During my time as Interim National Treasurer, the groundwork for our financial record-keeping was established. There was much ambiguity in our records up to that time, and while Sonia Morrow spent two years working to reconstruct records, I was able to take it a

step further and add my accounting knowledge, as a CPA, to further enhance the procedures.

Meanwhile, we finally established a routine budget process. During the 4-5 year period following my initial term as Interim National Treasurer in 1994, our national finance balances increased four times, from \$3,000 in 1994 to approximately \$12,000 in 1998-99 time frame. Careful budgeting, the ability to say "no" and planned investments all contributed to our progress to begin to reach for more financial stability.

Forgive my incomplete memory, but I BELIEVE I served two terms as Vice Chairman under Gayle Kirby, then Chairman, from 1996-1998. While serving, I suggested the refinement of our board advisory positions to become Finance, Risk Management, Records/Archives Management and Membership. These are the advisory positions currently in effect today.

Up to this point, I had been VERY active in the national organization and had been in the heart of many of the issues and successes we accomplished. In those 10 years in the National Office, I believe I had missed two conventions. I had even made the trek to Houghton four times, at my expense, to attend three conventions and an Alumni mid-year meeting. I have always maintained the philosophy that as a leader, I would always commit to do whatever it took to fulfill my responsibilities.

On a professional level, I moved to Columbia, SC in 1989 and went on to become a CPA who spent several years working as an auditor for a large international accounting firm, two years working in a hospital accounting department, and seven years working in a large software development company, where I left there in January 2001 as an Information Manager in the corporate Legal Department. In January, I went into full self-employment, managing my own newsletter publishing company and opening an income tax service. In addition to those endeavors, I also have rental properties in Florida and make monthly trips there to attend to business there and to serve on the Board of Directors of a condominium association there. All in all, self-employment has kept me much busier than I had anticipated.

From a musical perspective, I have played the piano since I was six years old, and later added trumpet, accordion, and organ to my instrumentalist. I also began singing in high school and carried on into college, where I sang in the concert choir and chamber choir. I was also the piano accompanist for the concert choir, chamber choir and the show choir for many years while at Clemson.

#### ...Xi continued from page 5.

various professional music events on campus and have even helped the Student Government Association by participating in the campus wide Fall Fest.

Xi has decreased in number greatly since last semester with the graduation of over 10 seniors this past May. There are two pledges for Xi this semester with initiations set for Novermber 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 P.M. The freshman class at St. Vincent has been very musically active thus far and the brothers of Xi are optimistic about a large pledge class in the spring. Anyone interested in attending Xi initiations are encouraged to contact president Nicole Brush at (724) 532-7183.

#### **Alumni Association**

by Kevin Britton, AA President

Greetings from the Alumni Association! This past summer, the Alumni Association held our 2002 Midyear Meeting in the Washington, DC area. In addition to helping us connect with our roots, the Midyear Meeting allowed us to begin plans for activities in several new areas, especially in regards to fund-raising and music promotion in our communities!

On the communications side of things, Vice President Kuhns has been working diligently on a mass-mailing to our entire database of Alumni! The purpose of the mailing is to touch base with those we haven't heard from in awhile, share current news and activities, and encourage them to keep in touch. We'll use the responses from the alumni to update our database, and provide input for future activities. You can help us in this endeavor! If you know of any alumni who have moved recently, let us know! You can contact Molly at mtderry@aol.com.

Of National Interest, the Alumni Association has begun planning for an 80th Anniversary Reunion, to be held in the Roanoke, VA area in 2005. We've also gotten involved in Expansion efforts! The Alumni Association was chosen as one of two co-hosts for the possible colonization of Loyola University in New Orleans. Julie Lyons was selected by the NCE as one of the Pledgemasters of the potential colony. We look forward to working with her towards the installation at Loyola, and working with the NCE on other possible colonization sites.

In the meantime, we continue to work on improving our Internet presence. Hopefully by the time you read this, our two e-mail lists, *alum-l* and *alumtalk-l* will have *Page 8* 

moved to the new National web server. We've also developed "Alumni Notes", a newsletter designed to let alumni know what the Association is up to and how they can get involved. You can find information about all these things and more on our website at www.mubetapsi.org/Alumni.

We look forward to seeing you all at Convention. The Alumni Association will be there in force, and possibly with a few new tricks up our sleeves!

May Brotherhood Prevail!

#### ...Kudlock continued from page 7.

Currently I sing in my church choir and play piano during some Sunday services, and I have also played keyboard in two different Christian bands over the past couple of years.

Just within the past year or so, I have pursued a longtime interest in theater and am preparing to appear in my fourth production in community theater here in Columbia. This pursuit has been very good for me personally, and it has provided me a great stress release during some hectic times as of late.

On a personal note, the last several years of my personal life have been wreaked with some very challenging situations, and without going into a lot of personal details here, suffice it to say that my FULL attention was focused on some life and death situations within my family, adversely affecting my performance not only within the Fraternity but with my job, my church activities and other aspects of my life. No one will ever really know the true price that I have paid, but I have gained much wisdom and maturity from the situations, which continue to exist but from which I have learned to move on despite continued hardships in some areas.

It is for these reasons that many of you have not had a chance to meet me the past couple of years. It is not because I have lost interest in the Fraternity, nor that I do not believe in its purposes. I have merely had to take some time to deal with some difficult situations, and I promise you...I would much rather work with you folks than deal with some of this personal stuff!

The past 16 years in this Fraternity have been great years for me. I have made so many friends outside of my home chapter, and the relationships have been very rewarding to me. I challenge each of you to savor your time within the Fraternity, not only now but in the future as alumni. There are many, many great rewards waiting for you to harvest... and it's only up to you to take advantage of them!

## What are Your Brothers Listening To?

Have you ever wondered if there was any good new music out? Or maybe wondered what the Brothers from other Chapters listened to? Here is a compiled list of just that -- good music that was reviewed by your Brothers.



#### **Erin Bates, NEOTC & Zeta Secretary**

- 1. Mazzy Star So Tonight I Might See
- 2. JJ72 JJ72
- 3. Janet Jackson The Velvet Rope
- 4. The Posies Nice Cheekbones and a PhD
- 5. Weezer The Green Album

## Jason Bauer, AA member & Zeta alumnus

- 1. Linkin Park Hybrid Theory
- 2. Staind Break the Cycle
- 3. Nickelback Silver Side Up
- 4. Fenix TX Lechuza
- 5. Incubus Make Yourself



## Chris Rodkey, AA member & Xi alumnus

## Birma Parrott, NVCM

- 1. Janet Jackson All For You
- 2. Aaliyah Aaliyah
- 3. Ludacris Back for the First Time
- 4. MTV Party To Go 1999



- 1. Kylie Minogue Light Years
- 2. Basement Jaxx Rooty
- 3. Bjork Vespertine
- 4. PJ Harvey Stories from the city, stories from the
- 5. Yaz The Best of Yaz

## Ryan Hauck, NVPE & Delta alumnus

- 1. Peter Gabriel Us
- 2. Papa Roach Infest
- 3. The Beelzebubs Next
- 4. Chemical Brothers Dig Your Own Hole
- 5. Nick Drake Pink Moon



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## Nicole Brush, Xi President

- 1. Lifehouse No Name Face
- 2. The Hippo's Heads are Gonna Roll
- 3. Jimmy Buffett Songs You Know By Heart
- 4. The soundtrack to the movie "Center Stage"
- 5. N'sync Celebrity

## You Didn't Kill Me ... written on September 14, 2001

by Kathleen M. Percival,

To the terrorists: I have so many emotions inside, so many awful things to say to you. There are not enough bad words in any language to define you and the act that you did. You killed many people; too many innocent people. But you did not kill me.

Thousands of families were torn apart, and thousands more felt their grief. You may have killed my brothers and sisters, but you have not won, because you did not kill me.

In grief there is strength and learning. As our country grieves, you will learn that we will not be defeated so easily. Our grief may be overwhelming, but so is our strength. If you could see our houses and storefronts, proudly waving our American flags, and hear our words of comfort for those we do not know, you would understand that you have not driven us apart but you have cemented us together. Why is this, you might ask? It is because you did not kill me.

People have come out in huge numbers to give blood, donate clothes, and volunteer in countless other ways. This should show you that you have not killed the American spirit, because you did not kill me.

If war is what you wanted, then war you may get, but you will not win. We survived Pearl Harbor, and we will survive this. Why? Because you did not kill me.

You infiltrated our airport security systems. You undermined our confidence. You destroyed lives. You planned for months, maybe years, researching and watching. You thought of every detail, but you forgot one thing. You forgot to kill me.

And this is why you will not win this, or any other war. We will not go down easy. We will not go down without a fight. America as a nation will not be taken over. You killed my brothers and sisters, and for that I can never forgive you. But you will never forgive yourself for your one mistake, because in your quest to take over our country, you forgot to kill me.

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## Tim Kudlock: Columbia, SC's New Broadway Baby

By Molly Kuhns, AA VP and Xi Almnae

PBOT member Tim Kudlock (Delta: pledged Fall 1985; graduated May 1988) knows how to keep the Spirit of Mu Beta Psi alive in his life.

Last September, Tim performed in a community theater production of  $42^{nd}$  Street in Columbia, SC, and fulfilled a dream he had carried with him for nearly twenty years.

"I saw 42<sup>nd</sup> Street on Broadway on my 17<sup>th</sup> birthday," said Tim, "and was so taken by it that from that night 17 years ago, I had a dream in my heart that someday I could be in 42<sup>nd</sup> Street."

Of course, dreams do not come true without a little courage and a lot of work.

Even though he had not taken part in a stage production since high school, Tim found the guts to try out for this local production of his favorite Broadway show. He also fearlessly took tap dance lessons in order to prepare for the audition.

Though he did not get a tap dance part, he snagged a character part that included lines, as well as singing and dancing in several ensembles. Despite his already full schedule, Tim made time for rehearsals and seventeen performances.

"I had no idea what it would be like to do a show 17 times," said Tim. "What I found, however, was that regardless of the repetition, every night was a new night because every night there was a NEW audience....There is no better feeling than to look out at the audience and see so many smiling faces, and to know that I had some small part of it."

After 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, Tim took a few months off from the theater to catch up on his life, quit his job and go full time in his small publishing company and rental properties, as well as open an income tax service. However, before long, he heard the theater calling and went to audition for Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat.

"Considering I am relatively clueless when it comes to impromptu anything," Tim recalled, "I was panicked right up until I was the next person to cross the stage....Fortunately, at the last minutes, I remembered THE GATOR."

For those who do not know, "The Gator" refers to a dance routine Zeta Brothers do to Bachman-Turner

Overdrive's "Taking Care of Business."

Continuing story of that audition, Tim confided, "Actually, a friend from  $42^{nd}$  *Street* e-mailed me and told me to come with him that weekend to audition for 'some show.' When I got to the theater, I literally almost turned around and went back home. Boy, would that have been a mistake. Joseph was probably even more awesome than  $42^{nd}$  *Street*!"

Thanks to that audition, Tim landed a role as one of Joseph's brothers.

Tim explained that *Joseph* presented a particular challenge to him. "I was on stage for probably about three-fourths of the show, and it was a very aggressive production. Joseph is actually considered a rock opera, sort of a strange category, and the whole show is singing and dancing with no spoken words. I ended up doing things I never thought I could do. I also lost nearly 20 pounds in the process. Of course, cutting back on french fries and hamburgers helped out, too!"

Joseph ran for 15 performances in July and August and broke the theater's 82-year record for ticket sales for a summer show. Before Joseph's run finished, however, Tim auditioned for a production South Pacific.

Can you see the pattern starting to develop here?

Tim spoke about his experience in that show: "In *South Pacific*, I played the part of the Professor, a more 'senior' role amongst the ensemble of sailors. That show was a complete sellout every night, and including the holdover performances, we ran that show 20 times. It was a long run, and I frankly was a little glad for that one to be over. Very few times in the theater's history has a show run 20 times."

And the pattern continues. Before *South Pacific's* run ended, Tim landed the role of Reverend Hopkins in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever.* 

In addition to this role, Tim was picked as the understudy for the lead male role and will play the piano during the "pageant" part of the show; he explained that he is excited about this variety and the chance to strengthen his acting skills.

Tim explained why being part of these productions has been one of the most rewarding experiences of his adult life. "The theater attracts a varied crowd, and it is amazing to see that, regardless of whether you are an attorney, a teacher or a McDonald's employee, no one casts judgment on each other, and everyone is accepted for who they are. There is a tremendous team spirit on stage, and everyone works hard to overcome any blunders or er-

rors to present a show that one can be proud of."

He continued: "For me, I have found it to be a huge stress reliever...Some people play golf, some people work out at the gym and other people play tennis. I go to the theater. It helps me to have more balance in my life, something that everyone needs."

"The friendships are a big reward of such productions," said Tim. "I have so many friends from different walks of life that I never would have had otherwise."

Tim and some of his new-found theater friends have formed a quartet and hope to play at various gigs around town and bring some holiday cheer to some nearby nursing homes.

Reflecting on the blessings of the past few months, Tim realized the importance of going after dreams. "My greatest regret," Tim confesses, "is that I waited so long to run after mine."

"In college, the world seems so conquerable," Tim cautioned, "but after getting beat up and knocked down in the real world after college, it is very easy to lose confidence in your dreams. Don't ever let your dreams and ambitions die. They are what makes you who you are and they CAN be achieved. You just have to make up your mind that YOU will do what it takes to get what you want."

Music must take rank as the highest of the fine arts -- as the one which, more than any other, ministers to human welfare.

-- Herbert Spencer

## Top Five Songs President Fielbrandt Should Karaoke At Convention 2002

- 5. "Achy Breaky Heart" by Billy Ray Cyrus
- 4. "I Feel For You" by Chaka Khan
- 3. "Gangsta's Paradise" by Coolio
- 2. "Bohemian Rhapsody" by Queen
- 1. "It's The End Of The World As We Know It" by REM

(Honorary Mention: "Who Let The Dogs Out" by the Baha Men)

# Chapter Traditions

## WEEKLY MEETINGS

#### **Alumni Association**

by Kevin Britton, AA President

The Alumni Association, by its very nature, cannot meet weekly, or even monthly. In fact, we only have two meetings a year: At the National Convention, and a Midyear meeting usually held in late summer/early fall. Instead, the Alumni Association executive committee conducts weekly "rhythm" e-mails, which are a chance for the officers and committee chairs to stay in touch with what's going on in their lives, describe what they're working on, and where they need feedback/help from other people. Though not mandatory, the participation has been quite good, and has helped us conduct business in between our regular meetings. We also make use of our e-mail list for active members, to conduct mail ballots for issues that need a vote taken before a regular meeting, and our e-mail discussion list, to discuss items of interest.

As far as our regular meetings go, the format is specified in our bylaws, and is fairly similar to Zeta's format, with Roll Call, Review of Minutes, Officer Reports, New Business, Committee Reports, Old Business, and Comments. We use Robert's Rules as a basic guideline for conduct.

## Alpha Chapter

by Alana Kirby, Alpha MAL

Brothers arrive to Alpha Chapter meetings precisely five minutes in advance, for inspections by the President. To vote at the meeting, each Brother is required to pass this inspection, which includes neat attire and appearance and precise position and angle of Brother's pin.

After the President calls the meeting to order at precisely 7:00:00 PM, the secretary conducts a roll call, verbally reporting the results to the President, and setting the precedent, followed by all Brothers throughout the meeting, of addressing our executive officer as "Mister President, sir!" The President then calls each officer to account for their actions over the previous week. Each officer rises and performs the secret Alpha salute, followed by a concise but accurate account of the week's events, yielding the floor directly to the chair afterwards, as is only proper. The committee chairs report in the order outlined in our Report Etiquette Policy. All Brothers listen in absolute

silence to the reports of the Roberts Rules Enforcement Committee, the Roberts Rules Appreciation Committee, the Roberts Rules Optimization Committee, and the Committee for the Promotion of the Four Purposes. Any officer or committee chair failing to show proper respect for the Alpha Code of Conduct must do penance as prescribed by the Alpha Censing Committee.

After an hour or two of reports, Brothers are ready to relax with Entertainment. Some of the common activities are marathon discussion training, fun rounds of musical charades featuring the works of obscure Hungarian composers, or our favorite, "Robert's Rules Jeopardy."

If by some chance we left unfinished business from a prior meeting, we discuss it in Old Business. During New Business, we might reallocate funds to place them in their proper accounts, or, if we are feeling radical, move to alter the order of business. The final vote of the Brotherhood in new business is conducted in the Psi room, when we vote to kick one Brother out of the Chapter. The Brother who has performed most impressively in that evening's entertainment competition is immune to being kicked out. After announcements, the meeting is adjourned, and the Brothers join in a rousing version of the *Hymn to the Glory of Running Mu Beta Psi with Robert's Rules*, followed by songs from the CD Milton Bliss's Greatest Hits.

## OK, OK, Real Alpha Chapter Meetings

Our general meetings take place on Sunday nights in 110 Price Music Center. The executive committee meets beforehand to review notes of Brothers who were absent or tardy to previous meetings, to discuss any major business scheduled for the meeting, and to review Brothers, if necessary.

The President and the Recording Secretary sit at a table at the front of the room, and the Brothers arrange themselves around. The officers make their reports first, followed by the standing committees, adhoc committees, national committees, and then the appointed positions of Historian and Parliamentarian. These reports are intended to let the Brotherhood know what the committee or officer has been doing over the week, although sometimes the reports will become discussions among the entire Brotherhood about a particular activity or project.

# Chapter Traditions

## WEEKLY MEETINGS

After the reports section of the meeting, we have a 10-15 minute recess, followed by Entertainment, which can be anything from playing or singing, to doing a magic trick, to presentations on the care and history of the American Flag. The Brother who had entertainment that week is given the first shot at moving for another Brother to have it the next week, which can often end up being entertaining in itself.

Old Business is next, followed by New Business. The Pledging portion of the meeting occurs next when pledging is or is about to be in session. Led by the Pledgemasters, this is the time to discuss plans for pledging, how a pledge class is doing, when Brothers can host paddle parties and information sessions, and the like. Announcements conclude our meeting, with serious announcements, then non-serious. The President adjourns the meeting, we all circle up to sing *Hail the Spirit*, and that's that.

## **Mu Chapter**

By Ryan Ong, Mu MAL

Our meetings are run loosely following Robert's rules. Each and every week, prior to the start of the meeting, the Chapter President will send out an agenda of the meeting, which the Brothers are supposed to print out and bring to the meeting.

The meeting itself begins with a Call to Order, followed by brief reports from the Chapter President - on general chapter business, the Secretary - on the status of members and absences, as well as the running of the meeting, and the Member-at-Large - on any and all pertinent national events. In general, these tend to run quickly unless there are pressing issues.

Committee reports come next, with the chair of each committee making a brief report on the issues facing that committee, and a summary of that week's meeting. Current Mu Chapter committees include Rules, Membership, Finance, Social, Service, Pledging, History and Archives, ECC (Electronic Communications Committee), Ad Hoc (Special Events), and Executive Committee. If the chair is not present for any reason, another member of the committee would make that committee's report. Committee reports are followed by both Old and New Business. After that, Brothers can make non-

business announcements about upcoming shows, exciting things they did over the weekend, or anything that's on their minds. This is our chance to find out what people are doing outside of Psi.

We conclude each meeting with a singing of Hail the Spirit. We all get up from our seats and, after finding a mutually agreeable key, stand in a circle, holding hands (our arms crossed right over left) and singing our Fraternity song. Afterwards, the meeting is adjourned with a motion made, seconded, and consented to by the Brotherhood.

## Xi Chapter

by Michael Allen, Xi MAL

Xi Chapter has decided to boycott the idea of weekly meetings and haven't met this semester. All correspondences have been made through e-mail and voice mail. Does anyone really believe that? I didn't think so.

Xi Brothers meet once per week on Sunday evenings to discuss the events of the week. Robert's Rules of Order govern all meetings. Committee meetings usually take place during the week with reports being given by the committee chairs at the weekly meeting. Discussions about social events usually take place at the weekly meeting as well. Events have been planned such as Halloween parties, movie nights, and special dinners. With only 16 active Brothers, it is not uncommon for Brothers to eat dinner together in the cafeteria and informally discuss Fraternity issues.

When it comes to the formal running of the meeting, Xi doesn't really have any unique tricks up its sleeve. One unique factor about weekly meetings at Xi chapter is the singing of Hail The Spirit at the end of the meeting. Xi is looking for a few sopranos to help balance out the bass dominated version of Hail the Spirit that Xi sings every week. You should hear it; it is quite interesting! The Xi goat does make the weekly meeting interesting though. He gives a weekly report of his activities that he's done during the week. He's also been putting together a scrapbook of his travels this summer. Hopefully it will be ready to debut soon!

## 

## **Events Calendar**

Dec.	15 16	Zeta Graduation Nu Graduation	Feb.	6 - 11	Winter Carnival @ Zeta
	19 20	Alpha Graduation Delta Graduation Mu Graduation	March		Zeta Spring Break Omicron Spring Break
	30	Initiation Reports & Fees Due Actives Lists Due		11 - 15 18 - 22	Mu Spring Break 6 Alpha Spring Break 2 Delta Spring Break 9 Nu Spring Break
Jan.	30	Spring Address Lists Due Alumni Reports Due	April	5 - 7	2002 National Convention
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## Letter From The Editor

Hello again from the Copper Country! Fall is such a beautiful time of year around Houghton. It's been a busy summer and fall for me with school, Fraternity business, and my work with the American Red Cross and Girl Scouts.

As you can see, this edition of *The Clef* is immense! My letter to all of you had to go on the back page as there was no room anywhere else. I thank all of you who turned in articles and making this an excellent edition. I hope that everyone in this wonderful Fraternity keeps up the enthusiasm about *The Clef* for it's next edition.

The "feature" of this issue is how Chapter meetings are run. You would think that we all do everything exactly the same. . . well, you can read for yourself. There are also biographies of a few members of the Permanent Board of Trustees. I hope that you find it all informative and interesting.

As always, if anyone has any suggestions/comments/articles or if you know of any alumni who would like a copy of this edition, feel free to e-mail me at embates@mtu.edu.

I look forward to seeing everyone in April at the 2002 Convention here in the beautiful Keweenaw!

In Love and Brotherhood Erin M. Bates National Editor of *The Clef* 



Music is the vernacular of the human soul.

-- Geoffrey Latham