

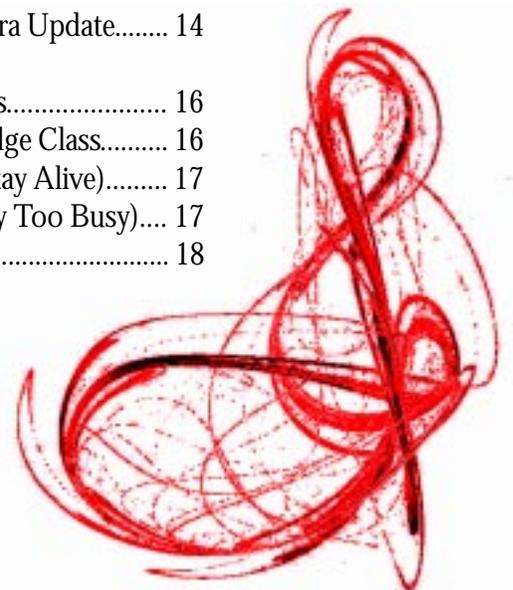


The Clef

A PUBLICATION OF MU BETA PSI, NATIONAL HONORARY MUSICAL FRATERNITY

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



Dear Brothers,

As a Brother of over three years, I have grown to love tradition and history. I love the comfort in knowing that if I were to visit Mu Chapter years or decades down the road, the ceremonies and their practices will have changed little. I love seeing Brothers returning on visits, and I love seeing old faces at National Convention. I love that if I were ever to have a child who pledged Mu Beta Psi, I would be able to reminisce about the times when I did those same things.

For those reasons, I understand the value of history and traditions. Inevitably though, there is change. And I can appreciate that change because things are different, yet things are always the same.

For example, every time I go to National Convention, I appreciate all the familiar faces that I recognize. But during that same weekend, I see lots of nametags and am surprised by all the faces that I can now match to names. I love the new Brothers that I meet on every trip that I take and that make visits to my home Chapter.

Given votes of confidence for a year of overseeing the production of *The CLeF*, I decided to implement some changes around the publication that I discussed during my election speech. These changes start with the cover: If you have ever seen an issue of *The CLeF* before, you'll have already noticed by the first page that things have different this time around.

I wanted this spring edition of *The CLeF* to reflect our Fraternity. We are a relatively small organization, but therein lies our strength. We know each other by faces. We recognize names and we can name all the chapters of our Fraternity. We are steeped in traditions and seasoned Brothers. But at the same time, several times a year, we collectively cheer on the initiation of Brothers across the States.

We have so many different personalities. Every Convention, I leave wanting to be an active Brother at each collegiate Chapter -- every Chapter seems so fun and so vibrant. And that's one of my favorite qualities about this Fraternity. We're just so darned fun to be around.

I considered my top two goals for this spring edition to be functionality and representation. Functional -- I wanted to change its overall presentation to make it more pleasant on the eye. Representational -- I wanted it to reflect our spirit.

This issue covers a plethora of subjects. There are the requisite officer and chapter reports, but then the latter half of this issue contains feature items that span from the funny to the practical. I hope you enjoy this issue as much as I did creating it. As always, direct suggestions/comments/articles or any alumni who would like a copy to me. (E-mail clef@mubetapsi.org.)

In Brotherhood and Love,
Jonny C. Chen
National Editor of *The CLeF*

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

National President

Phillip Staten

Omicron Alum

[president@mubetapsi.org]

National Vice President of Chapter Maintenance

Wesley Meacombs

Alpha Alum

[maintenance@mubetapsi.org]

National Vice President of Expansion

Alana Kirby

Alpha Alum

[expansion@mubetapsi.org]

National Secretary

Nathaniel Kulyk

Xi Alum

[secretary@mubetapsi.org]

National Treasurer

Julie Lyon

Alpha Alum

[treasurer@mubetapsi.org]

National Historian

Shari Baxter

Alpha Alum

[historian@mubetapsi.org]

National Editor of The CLeF

Jonny Chen

Mu Alum

[clef@mubetapsi.org]

PERMANENT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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[bryan@mubetapsi.org]

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Traveling this summer? Consider sending a postcard to your collegiate chapter! They'll make good reads for when the Brothers return in the fall. And they can help spice up chapter scrapbooks.

FROM OUR NATIONAL OFFICERS...

NATIONAL PRESIDENT REPORT

Phillip Staten



I wasn't a very good Pledge. In fact, as the Alpha Pledge Class President at Omicron, I was a very bad pledge. I routinely forgot to wear my Pledge pin, I almost never carried my Pledge book around, and when it came time for the final exam, I had to take it twice to pass. I thought it would be easy to join and an attractive line on my resume. I wasn't a very good Pledge at all. Now I'm giving my first report as National President. I could insert a lot of metaphors about seeing the light or climbing a mountain, but in the interest of digestibility, I'll leave those for other ventures.

I've read over the Clef reports of National Presidents before me, but I have to confess that I'm not sure what to write. I've been told to just write what I feel, so here goes.

Among the documents I researched when running for this office was the National Constitution. I read over the duties of the office, the structure of the National organization and something occurred to me - the National Constitution gives no instruction for implementing on the National level the four purposes that it outlines.

As an organization, we are essentially a loose confederation, coming together but once a year to elect new officers and have parties. Fun as it is, I'm not comfortable settling for that. To be as committed as we claim to be to honoring, stimulating, advancing, and promoting, we do little, Nationally, to accomplish any of that. The Chapters do very good work in this regard while the National Office is essentially an accounting agency with some administrative functions. I think we can do better. I think we should do better.

One of the most striking dissimilarities between the Chapters and the National organization is the position of the Activities Coordinator or a committee with similar respon-

sibilities. The different Chapters have different service requirements, but there are service requirements nonetheless. Nationally, no service requirements exist. There is no National involvement in musical service. I hope that we can build on the successes of the Chapters in service to develop National service ideas. Without a doubt, it can be time consuming and taxing to merely complete the service requirements for one's Chapter. Without a doubt, though, it can also be infinitely rewarding.

I hope that our ideas for National service can be realized. I will work diligently to create committees and other structures necessary for implementing our prized concepts of honoring, stimulating, advancing, and promoting. Ours is not an easy charge. I joined Mu Beta Psi because I thought it would be easy. I have never been more grateful to be more wrong.

NVPCM REPORT

Wesley Meacombs



Dearest Brothers,

I have been relatively inactive since convention. I must say that Nu Convention was definitely a learning experience for me. I have been to many conventions (this past one makes my second Nu convention), but this has been my first acting as a national officer. I feel that my performance was less than par, but I will do better in the upcoming year and at the next convention. I was able to receive a lot of constructive criticism from my BOT review, so rest assured that I will be working harder to fulfill the role entrusted to me.

Several things are coming up for the end of the year. Updated copies of each chapter's by-laws are due to the National Secretary by the end of the semester. I will be receiving copies of these from him. I will be spending my summer going thru all of the manuals and updating them for disbursement to each

chapter by the start of the fall semester. Once these disbursements have been made, the NCCM will be meeting to discuss the contents of these packets, and to discuss any revisions that might need to be made. All items for revision will not be set by the first meeting, so we will have several meetings leading up to the next convention.

The MAL Roundtable meetings will be starting up in the fall as well. I would like to have one per month or so, but it's up to the MAL's. I am planning on keeping a summary of what was discussed at each meeting for reference. These summaries will not be minutes, but I have had several officers ask me what went on in the meetings, so this way I will have something to give them. It was mentioned in the Town Meeting that everyone would like to have a few meetings between the pledge masters at each chapter. I will be heading this up. I plan on holding these meetings in the same format as the MAL Round Table. These Pledge Master Round Table Meetings should be started as soon as possible, so there can be some sharing of ideas before the "Rush" period starts.

I will be sending out information on all the aforementioned meetings in early August, so be on the lookout.

As far as my personal life, things are going well. I seem to be locked in a routine of work, movies, then sleep, then work, etc. Now that the weather has changed for the good, I imagine I will be outside more and more. This past weekend was beautiful and I believe it would have been a sin to stay indoors, so I was out a lot this weekend. Thank God for springtime. I am very excited about some trips I have planned for the next few months. I am going to New York City in May with friends (I am not at liberty to discuss the reasoning for this trip J). I will be traveling to Zeta on the weekend of September 11 for their annual K-Day weekend. That should be a lot of fun! I also have two weddings that I am in. One is for an Alpha Alumni, TW Shaw, and the other is for my sister Christi. I can't wait for either of them. I guess that's enough for now. I hope everyone has a wonderful summer.

In Brotherhood,
Wesley Meacombs

FROM OUR NATIONAL OFFICERS...

NVPE REPORT

Alana Kirby



Brothers,

Spring has come at last to the frozen north, and as the weather warms up and flowers bloom, so too shall our expansion efforts blossom and bear fruit. We must till the soil of prospective schools and tend the shoots of colonies to bring our Fraternity to its full potential. Had enough of metaphor? Let's get to details.

There are two major colonization projects we are currently pursuing. The first is Northern Michigan University in Marquette, Michigan. Brothers at Zeta Chapter will travel to Marquette later this semester to present information about Mu Beta Psi and host receptions for the ensembles at NMU, a fabulous idea that will demonstrate what a Chapter could do for the students and ensembles. Zeta Chapter has put in a lot of time and dedicated effort – we would not have this prospect without their hard work. Great job, Brothers!

Another continuing expansion effort is at Binghamton University in Binghamton, New York. We have several alumni Brothers in the area, and Nu alum Brian Culkin has spoken to Dr. Borton, the head of the music department. We have his permission to seek out and pursue student interest; we have made information about Mu Beta Psi available to the students there.

In addition, we have a “to-do” list of schools to look into. These include: St. Augustine's College in Raleigh, NC; Gallaudet University in the Washington DC area; Saginaw Valley State University in Saginaw, MI; Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA; and UNC Charlotte and Queen's College in Charlotte, NC.

At this past Convention, the National Committee on Expansion discussed and approved changes to the Expansion Policy, sepa-

rating our original long policy into two documents: a policy and a procedure for colonization. This move is designed to make information easier for Brothers to locate. In addition, the Committee approved the Merger Guidelines, a document outlining the steps for deciding how to merge our policies, traditions, finances, and rituals, should we try to merge with another music organization. Please contact me at aekirby@umich.edu if you are interested in getting involved in the Expansion process – we can always use new ideas, enthusiasm, and contacts.



NATIONAL SECRETARY REPORT

Nathaniel Kulyk



Greetings!

First off, I hope that everyone is doing well and finding the final weeks of their spring semester not TOO stressful. As I have only been in office for less than a month, I really don't have a great deal to report on. Convention minutes are slowly but surely being prepared for release. I have also taken the time to create an “electronic office” for myself, so as to store electronic copies of all important documents that I receive on my computer for easy retrieval. All of the information from the convention disks are now part of this office. This can all be easily copied to a C-D Rom should anyone ever need it. With respect to hard copies of documents, I am planning over the summer to go through everything and make sure that an “easy to use” system for storage and access of these documents exists. It is also my intention to submit any of the older documents—predating 1998 for financial documents and predating 2000 for other things—to the Fraternity Archives.

I am definitely looking forward to this upcoming year and having the opportunity to work with the other national officers and all of the chapters to ensure that Mu Beta Psi continues to move in the right direction. Good luck to everyone with finals, and con-

gratulations to everyone who is graduating this year!

IBH,

Nathaniel Kulyk

BEHIND THE OFFICER: ALANA KIRBY

Emily Southworth

With six years in Mu Beta Psi under her belt, NVPE Alana Kirby has already done so much for the Fraternity. A native of Alpha Chapter, she first wanted to be the Musical Activities Coordinator at her home chapter and serve as the Chair of the Rules Committee. She went on to serve as the Head MAC and then MAL for two years. She also had to play a role in the pledging process, as many brothers do, and became the Pledgemaster in Spring 2000 and served as the Host Pledgemaster for Omicron Colony.

Alana decided to pledge in the Spring of 1998, her second semester at North Carolina State University, after one of her professors had recommended her to the Fraternity. She was so touched by the action and thrilled to become part of the Cheesy Poofs -- a pledge class of 13, as different as night and day and a group that she has not formed such closeness with prior to or since that experience.

As NVPE, Alana's role is to oversee the efforts of forming new Chapters within the Fraternity. Currently serving her second term in the position, she wanted it because she loves the idea of expansion. It's a fun committee and she loves playing such an important role affecting the history of the Fraternity. She looks forward to the possibility of starting a new chapter during this next term.

But she also just loves her role as a national officer. She is able to be questioned by people about the Fraternity and there is a trust in that position. She has a wealth of knowledge and experience within the Fraternity that enable her to share with others.

In her spare time outside of the Fraternity, Alana is a student at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor as a second year medical student. She is hoping to get a dual graduate degree as an M.D. and PhD in Biophysics or in a similar subject. She is also in the orchestra for a medical student musical, and finishing up preparations for a fundraiser for a shelter for women with HIV/AIDS and their children.

NATIONAL TREASURER REPORT

Julie Lyon



Brothers,

Here are some reminders of impending deadlines:

· **April 30:** Last day to submit a reimbursement form and receipts for the 2003-2004 fiscal year.

· **April 30:** Last day to submit the New Initiate Form for the Brothers initiated this Spring. Please submit this form plus the \$34 per initiate by the due date so that I can process shingle orders efficiently. Chapters will be fined \$25 for failure to meet this deadline.

And now for the numbers:

Checking: \$8,857.63

Savings: \$10,224.13

Convention was excellent this year. Some plans we have for the upcoming year include:

· **Investigating Liability Insurance for the Fraternity.** We have designated up to \$500 to discuss our options with a lawyer. Currently, we are exploring our options online and through contacts at our schools. We will have a plan for liability insurance by October 15, 2004.

· **Completing the Tax-Exempt Application for the National Organization.** The NFC set a deadline of December 31, 2004 for a completed application for tax-exempt status. I have several Brothers at various chapters helping me to complete this project. We should have tax-exempt status by Convention 2005.

· **Investigating New Jewelry Options.** Our Jewelry Task Force will be looking into new jewelry options. Currently, we have Brothers pins, Pledge pins, Crest lapel pins, Crest necklace pendants, Crest waterslide decals, name tags, and some old lavalieres. If we can find some new suppliers and products, the National Organization can purchase these items in bulk and sell them to individual Brothers

or chapters at cost. Post your ideas for jewelry on the national website forum: Jewelry Task Force.

As a primer for the new officers, the **National Treasurer** interacts with the chapters in the following ways:

· **Semi-annual financial statements.** I solicit these financial reports from chapters, compile them, and distribute to the Fraternity. These financial reports should give us a feel for how the entire Fraternity stands financially. They are due on October 15th and April 15th of each year. (I have already collected them for this year.)

· **New initiate reports.** Every semester, the Chapters are required to fill out a New Initiate Report form and submit it with one check for \$34 per initiate. The \$34 covers National dues (\$20), a shingle fee (\$4), and an initiation fee (\$10). Based on these forms, I order shingles and distribute them to the Chapters.

· **Jewelry orders.** If you have individual or Chapter jewelry orders, which includes items such as Brother and pledge pins, Brother key lapel pins and necklaces, name badges, and crest decals, submit a jewelry form and check to me ("Mu Beta Psi, Inc.").

· **Reimbursements.** If you would like to get the money allotted to you in your budget, send me a reimbursement form and attach receipts.

· **Active Brother List.** Each semester, Chapters submit this form with their National dues. National dues are \$30 in the Fall and \$20 in the Spring. You only need to pay dues once per year (new initiate dues are covered in their initiation fee).

Finally (and most importantly, I think), as you elect **new Chapter Treasurers**, please let me know the Brother's name and summer contact information (including phone numbers, email addresses that will be active over the summer, and IM). Ensure a smooth transition by passing along any electronic and paper-based accounting systems, changing the signature cards on the account to the new Treasurer and President, and passing on the Treasurer notebook I gave out at Convention 2003. I would like to communicate frequently with the Treasurers this summer, and updated contact info is the first step.

I am taking my comprehensive exams from May 5 to May 14, and then I will be in China from May 30 to June 12, so please excuse any delays in responding to your emails, calls, or IMs.

Just after Convention, my laptop suffered extensive and permanent hard drive damage. Unfortunately, I've lost many important Mu Beta Psi files, including the most recent excel file of the National Accounts. Please be patient with me this summer as I reconstruct all that was lost. I may be calling on you to email me some files that I need. Thanks in advance for your help!

Finally, this upcoming year will be the last year in my 3-year term at National Treasurer. If you're thinking about running for this position or any other national offices, we should chat. Contact me anytime. Thanks for another great year!!

In Brotherhood,
Julie Lyon

PS: My **contact info** is:
7830 Hanover Pkwy #201
Greenbelt, MD 20770
treasurer@mubetapsi.org
or jlyon@psyc.umd.edu
(301) 325-8823 (home/cell)
(301) 405-5934 (school/day)



Trying to locate a Brother?
Looking for your pledge class?
Need a Psi document?

Check out the new Brothers Intranet!
www.mubetapsi.org

GETTING TO KNOW YOU...



NS NATHANIEL KULYK

Katie Quillin, Omicron

Newly elected National Secretary, Nathaniel Kulyk is no stranger to responsibility. After pledging in spring semester 2001, Kulyk was appointed Sgt. at Arms for Xi chapter. He served for one year (2001-2002) after which he served two years as Xi chapter's MAL. Kulyk is a senior history major and political science minor at St. Vincent College, Latrobe, PA. He is active in several activities and honor societies on campus aside from Mu Beta Psi including the SVC Pep Band, where he plays trumpet, Alpha Lambda Delta National honor society, and Phi Alpha Theta history honor society, and campus ministries. In his limited spare time, Kulyk enjoys keeping up with current events, and can be found listening to am radio, watching Fox News, or reading online publications. He also enjoys a good chocolate Sundae on occasion.

Kulyk feels his prior experience in Mu Beta Psi has helped to prepare him for the duties of National Secretary by giving him a good sense of the national organization as well as helping him develop a solid working relationship with the other national officers past and present. He says he also counts his summer archiving internship and senior thesis have as good experiences helping him to develop his organizational and time management skills. Kulyk has several aims as a national officer, "I want to make myself available to help address any concerns or problems the chapters have...I am not just here to demand certain documents by a certain time, or just to take notes." He says that the greatest challenge he foresees in the immediate future for his office is to sort and organize the copious amounts of paperwork and file hardcopy he has inherited as the national secretary, and determining what needs to be archived with the National Historian. However, Kulyk says, he has made good progress with the chapter reports thus far.

Kulyk says he wants to see the National

organization of Mu Beta Psi grow and develop, and he also hopes to be able to help with any expansion efforts that might be made in the DC area. Kulyk will be moving there after completing his History degree in May to pursue his masters in 20th century and public history at American University. "I see great things on the horizon for Mu Beta Psi," says Kulyk. "If the fraternity wants to continue to grow, the chapters and the national organization must keep communication lines open, [and national officers must] be quick to address concerns, and be willing to make visits in person to chapters." Kulyk says that he hopes to see the chapter's national organization become a bigger part of Mu Beta Psi while also encouraging the unique talents of each chapter. In that aim, Kulyk says Xi plans to host a talent show at convention 2005. Also to that end, Kulyk's further goals as NS are to visit other chapters, and to help the new National President, Phillip Staten expand the activities of the National Organization.



C-BOT BENJAMIN GRIFFETH

Emily Southworth, Nu

Benjamin Griffeth is from Kappa chapter at Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC. He decided to pledge because he has been singing in one group or another since he was 6 years old and has always been invested in seeing more music available. He also had many friends who were going to pledge as well so pledging became the "right thing to do" as well as a better chance to drink with friends.

Within the fraternity, Griffeth was the Kappa chapter president for two terms before running for the Board. He ran twice unsuccessfully but the third time was a charm. While taking medical school exams, Ben was

elected in absentia at Zeta.

Aside from presiding over the BOT, he is in charge of being an advisor to the President, "a clearinghouse of useless information" and being nervous over potentially inheriting jobs from resigning officers. He feels that the worst part of his job is finding out when Brothers are not able to contribute as they would have wanted and having to give up a job that they loved.

Ben feels that the job of the BOT is to "steer the Fraternity toward the main purpose of furthering music as one of the prime arts and to see it gain strength in curricula and communities. Another job of the BOT is to keep the idea of institutional memory alive throughout the next generations of Brothers.

Ben's goal this year is find a central focus for the Fraternity. Some ideas for this focus are a common fundraiser, common theme for service "or just a good kegger". He would like to see the Fraternity, as a whole, work together towards one idea and one goal.

Outside of Mu Beta Psi, Ben is the chief of emergency psychiatry at a Veterans Hospital in Salem (the city that abutts Roanoke, VA). He is also responsible for teaching about 30 residents and 20 medical students, whether they rotate through the ER or students to whom he lectures. He is an assistant professor of psychiatry at UVA and a new medical school associated with Virginia Tech.

Furthermore, Ben is also a lieutenant commander in the Naval Reserves, for which I also practice psychiatry. More importantly, he is the husband of Amanda and the father of Allie and Owen, who are his focus in life. Amanda is also a Brother which means his children have music surrounding them and blessing them every day.



A TOAST TO FRIENDSHIP AND BROTHERHOOD

A DEDICATION

Kate Percival

I'm Kate Percival, also once known as Kate DeForest. I'm a Founder of Nu Chapter and hold second place only to Brother Lee Norton for hanging around Nu the longest.

For a while, I've been disappointed that there hasn't been more of an emphasis on the fact that this is Nu's 10-year anniversary. Mostly, I was disappointed in myself for not being a better liaison between the current Brothers and the alumni who I pledged with or got to see initiated. These were my friends – some of my closest friends were made because of Mu Beta Psi. And I kept thinking, "Why didn't I do this? Why didn't I do that? Why didn't I ask the Founders or the Alphas or the Deltas to come?" Then I came across this passage written at an Overnight on March 10, 2001 by Brother Brooke Baker:

Hey Nu – I've gotta admit that the idea of driving 12 hours from North Carolina just to go to a one-night party seemed a bit sketchy to me when Kurt [Davies] brought it up . . . BUT . . . I am so very, very, glad to have been here tonight, and met all of you, and share in a brotherhood that is so much bigger than my chapter alone. I don't think I've ever felt like more of a Mu Beta Psi Brother than I do right now – and for that, this trip is so much more than worth it. Thanks.

*Love in Brotherhood,
Brooke Baker, Mu Chapter
3/10/01*

I got thinking about this, and I've decided that I'm no longer upset that more Nu founders didn't come. Don't get me wrong, I would have loved to have all 24 of us here, but that's not really the point.

There comes a point, when many of us have realized or will realize that it's time to step back from Mu Beta Psi. To set aside the fraternal responsibilities, walk away from the soap opera dramas that I *know* we've all seen, and maybe rethink our priorities a little bit. For some, that point may never come, and to you I say . . . "Rock on!" I tried to come up



with something that was a little more professional or profound, but that's all I have. "Rock on!" because I can't do it. For me, that time did come, and I've been trying to wean myself away from Mu Beta Psi for a few years now. It was a difficult realization for me to come to.

As a Founder, I had this delusional idea that it was sort of my duty to have a hand in as many things as possible, to make sure the chapter stayed "on the right path" and true

"
... being apart from Mu Beta Psi doesn't mean being apart from Brotherhood. There's a point when the lines of friendship and Brotherhood merge."

to its purpose. But then, today, after reading Brooke's message, and after seeing all of you – record-breaking numbers, I understand – here in Oswego, I began to realize that being apart from Mu Beta Psi doesn't mean being apart from Brotherhood. There's a point when the lines of friendship and Brotherhood merge. I reached that point with many of my Brothers, and probably wouldn't have such solid friendships with them if I hadn't had this Fraternity to base those friendships on.

So my message is, even if you decide to not be an active part of Mu Beta Psi, Mu Beta Psi will always be a part of you, if you want it to be. I am sorry that more Nu alumni couldn't be here, especially Founders, but I'm very glad for the ones who are, and for everyone who came this weekend. After 10 years, it's ok that my alumni friends didn't come, because when I need them I know

they'll be there for me, just as I will be for them.

Again, I'd like to say thank you to everyone who traveled from out of town to be here this weekend, which is about 95% of everyone here. And I'd like to propose a toast: Here's to exhausting trips, long meetings, new friends, old friends, everlasting friendships, and the memories that make it all so much more than worthwhile.

May friendship and Brotherhood forever prevail.

Kate Percival, Nu Chapter Founder
Convention 2004
3/27/04



*Brothers at National Convention 2004 at Nu Chapter.
For more pictures, go to www.mubetapsi.org*

CHAPTER REPORTS

ALPHA CHAPTER

Tony Sprinkle

The Fall 2003 semester ended rather successfully for Alpha Chapter. On November 23rd, we Initiated the 4 for the Price of 6 Pledgeclass (Jake Goad, David Lee, Carson Swanek, and Matt Wood) and 2 Honorary Brothers (Kathy Laudate and Shana Tucker-Williams). We also had a Chili Fundraiser on December 3rd which netted over \$100 for our coffers.

The Spring 2004 semester started out rather slow, thanks to winter weather. In January, we took a Brother's Retreat to Emerald Isle, NC, where we spent the weekend planning out our Pledging season, and having tons o' fun. Also, we were treated to a visit from Zeta alum Matt Zander.

February saw the creation of the Spring 2004 Pledgeclass, the Mu-Tang Clan. Outside of Pledging, the rest of our attentions were focused on preparing for Convention at Nu Chapter, and preparing for our 19th annual MuisicFEST on March 31st. We were able to send 12 Brothers (almost our entire Active Brotherhood!) and 1 Pledge to Convention this year, our highest Convention attendance in recent memory. And MusicFEST, our annual scholarship fundraiser, made well over \$100 to go towards our scholarship fund, and several cans of food to go to the Food Bank of North Carolina.

April 16th and 17th saw the Initiations of the Mu-Tang Clan (Kristen Clyburn, Chelsea Davis, Evan Graham, Marsha Hoover, Ashleigh Nagel, and Katie Williams). We had a very large turnout to Inits, including the majority of the Mu Chapter Active Brotherhood, Kristy Seigfried from Delta Chapter, and Pam Meadors (mother of Alpha Brother Ashley Peacock), a Delta alum who was active at Clemson in the '70s. Thanks to all who came out!

We are looking forward to Fall 2004 and the opportunity to expand our

service efforts with our ever-growing Brotherhood.

DELTA CHAPTER

Casey Hatcher

Hey y'all from Delta,

After convention last year we welcomed two new brothers Ed Carnes and Jason Georgiades. They were a wonderful asset to our brotherhood but sadly along with Nicole Chavez they graduated and left Clemson. All three are still in close contact and support Delta as much as they can.

In the fall Delta met and decided to focus more on finding new ways to interest the student population at Clemson University. Many brothers were extremely involved with school and work so Delta tried to concentrate on their own well being. This spring Delta was glad to welcome James Hyslop back from Germany where he was doing an internship with BMW.

Delta is now in the rebuilding stage because some of the brothers have graduated, but we have some new ideas and plan to have a large pledge class in the fall. Jamie also has some new ideas on how to get people interested in Delta chapter and we plan on working on those ideas throughout the semester and the summer. In the fall we plan to start early with our recruiting efforts and get Delta's membership back up. We look forward to having an exciting new semester and welcoming fresh people into our chapter. Delta is thankful for all the help from some of the national officers and we are excited about next fall.

May Brotherhood Prevail!!!!

ED. NOTE A report was not available from this chapter, so the last available report was used.

ZETA CHAPTER

Andrew Barwis

The past year at Zeta Chapter has been one of growth, both in our ranks and in our assistance to the community. We have, now more than ever, great hope that another Chapter will be colonized in our vicinity. We've also become more active socially within the University, taking a greater part in homecom-

ing and Winter Carnival celebrations than we have in a long while.

Zeta graduated a sparse few last spring semester, and though the Brothers who have moved on will be sorely missed, we are glad to have the fourteen who pledged since last we met. The pair of pledge classes who went through in last Spring and Fall have pushed Zeta's active Brother count to over 20, which is an important factor in allowing us to be as involved as we are.

Our service to the community has increased over the past year as well. Zeta continues to staff, support and advertise for the monthly dinner-and-a-movie venue of Club Indigo. We continue to distribute posters for all Fine Arts Department events, as well as usher each Fine Arts show. We continue to support the Athletic Department by selling programs at all sporting functions, and we have finished obtaining rights to print a pepband songbook for the enrichment of those attending the athletic events.

As has become tradition, Zeta held its annual Pasta dinner to benefit the Fine Arts Department. We also were able to give away a \$250 pep band scholarship, and have assembled the financial underpinnings to begin to offer a second. In addition to all this, this past fall Zeta took on the task of putting on an advertising blitz for a benefit Ragtime concert/art auction for an arts-oriented hospice named Omega House. We also volunteered our time and efforts to ensure the concert and auction went off without a hitch.

Zeta has also been far more active in the social aspects of the University over the past year. Our intramural sports teams have had quite the record this year, snagging second place in a Cinderella-themed year for our class C ice hockey team, taking second place in inner-tube water polo and our winter carnival tug-o-war team took second place in our division as well, so it's been a stellar year for sports from Zeta.

All in all, we're doing quite well up here in the north.



MU CHAPTER

Jonny Chen

Last Fall began rather roughly for Mu Chapter. Going into it, we knew that we'd have very few active Brothers and would be depending on our Brothers' sense of accountability for survival. Our small size helped in building a sense of solidarity and teamwork, which we'd had problems with in previous semesters. In November we initiated our youngest pledge class yet -- the Four Fabulous Phi Females (Melissa Campo, Heather Craft, Catrina Harris, and Anna Kaplan), all of girls being freshman. This was inspiring in a way ("young blood"), and we looked forward to another successful semester in the spring. We ended fall semester on a good note, sharing a lunch at a local restaurant with our Honorary Brothers, our way of making an effort of making sure all the new and old faces at our chapter were meeting our Honorary Brothers, and vice versa.

At the time of National Convention 2004, our chapter had seven active Brothers, several local alum Brothers, and four local Brothers, whom had either gone inactive recently or were special active. This reflected a lot of the pressure that our chapter was taking on over the semester to survive in terms of numbers and also to commit our best efforts towards the Four Purposes of Mu Beta Psi.

Despite all our number problems, we had a great spring semester. We hurdled winter weather early on (hey, it's the south! we're not used to so many snow days!) for three major events in January: the third annual Psi Jam, the proceeds of which again went to VH1's Save the Music; the first annual Senior Music Major Recital, which featured outstanding performances from senior year musicians; and a week of rush events for our spring pledge season. We had several Brothers visit for these events. And we also got a pleasant surprise visit from Zeta alum Matt Zander.

Later in the spring we were proud to initiate the three pledges of the Special Chi pledge class: Amy Dallen, Chris Faulkenberry, and Erin Husson.

This May we are graduating two of our Brothers from the oldest pledge class still around. Jonny Chen and Mikey Truzy have been with this chapter for over three years now. They've made promises to stay around North Carolina though, so hopefully we'll be seeing lots of them.

We're looking forward to renewing ourselves over the summer and coming back for an exciting fall semester.. Have a great summer, everyone!

NU CHAPTER

Mel D'Arcangelis

This semester has been great for our chapter. First off, we would like to thank everyone for making Convention such a great event. Everyone in Nu and the Brotherhood worked hard to make this work. We appreciate everything.

While much of our time this semester was spent planning and organizing Convention, we did have fun with other things this semester. Some of our Brothers participated in the Bowl-A-Thon for Literacy (which I hear was a blast and tons of fun). In an effort to raise money, we co-hosted a Dance-athon on campus in which we raised around \$50.

Our biggest fundraising event was our sales of Otis Spunkmeyer cookies (these were the delicious cookies at Convention). We made almost \$400 through this fundraiser. We also collected bottles and cans to be deposited.

As always, we help usher concerts put on through the music department. This Saturday April 24, we will be participating in SUNY Oswego's 24-hour relay. Each group signs up to walk a designated course for one hour. Each group gives \$20 in pledges and proceeds will be donated to the Tom Chapman Memorial Scholarship Fund and the Camp Good Days Fund.

I am proud to say that we just initiated four wonderful pledges: Katie "Muppet" Burnett, Crystal "Cheshire" Campbell, Jessie "Splitter" Dawes, and Heather "Hey Mr. D.J." McDonald. Though they had their rough

moments, these fine young Brothers were able to pull together and make it through the process with flying colors. They made us so proud.

With every class that comes in, some (sadly) will leave. We have graduating this semester including: Lauren Forcucci, Chris Kessler, Bob Purcell, Emily Southworth, Rebecca Sutter, Matt Warchal, and Devlin Varn. They have been a big part of the Brotherhood and will be missed.

Hope everyone had a great semester and, again, thanks for a great time at Convention.

XI CHAPTER

Beth Demharter

Greetings from Xi Chapter!

I am pleased to offer this report on the events and activities that have been taking place over the past year. Overall, this has been a very busy and exciting year for us with a great deal of activities, service projects, and new members!

Service projects and fundraisers have been a major part of our year here at Xi. Once again, our chapter has worked to raise money through the sale of Avons products. We raised a total of over \$300 through these sales. We also held a soup luncheon for the campus and the Saint Vincent Basilica Parish where we raised over \$200 through a combination of ticket sales and donations from college professors. During the luncheon, several brothers and our pledges had the opportunity to show off some of their musical talent. We had several attendees, including one of our honorary brothers, James F. Will, President of Saint Vincent College.

Xi Chapter has done other activities this semester. On the feast day of St. Cecelia, a small commemorative presentation was made during the Campus Ministry masses. In December, the brothers held a Christmas caroling toy drive, in which toys were collected for the Salvation Army while singing for several professors and administrative officials.

Nu Chapter cont'd on p. 10..

CHAPTER REPORTS

... Nu Chapter cont'd from p.9

Also, in recognition of our beloved mascot, Xi Goat, our chapter donated money to an international charity, which in turn donated a goat to a need family.

With regards to our many musical activities on campus, Xi has been as active as ever. Several of our brothers have remained actively involved in the SVC Pep Band, The Company's productions of "The Return of Company Cabaret" and "The Sound of Music," The Saint Vincent Singers annual production of "Handal's Messiah," and the Saint Vincent Opera Workshop. It is our continued hope that the Music Department at Saint Vincent College continues to grow and offer these wonderful programs for the students.

On December 27, 2003, several Xi brothers witnessed the wedding of Christopher Rodkey and Traci Lalli. Our heartfelt congratulations are extended to the happy couple and we wish them the very best in their new life together.

As always, Xi has placed a great deal of emphasis on new pledges. This past year, our chapter has installed several new brothers for the fraternity. In the fall, we were pleased to welcome the Xi Class of Xi Chapter: Kenneth Asuquo, Andrew Hall, Allyson Yukevich, Charles Beck, and John Trepasso. Our spring initiations took place on April 16th, in which we initiated three more new brothers, Alison Crotti, Danielle Cartaxo, and Elena Ziccarelli. In early February, we were pleased to welcome a new honorary brother to Xi: Father Cyprian Constantine O.S.B. (Order of Saint Benedict), new Music Department chair at Saint Vincent College.

Sadly, Xi will be saying goodbye to several graduating seniors this year. On May 8, 2004, Laura Mallery, Jason Winters, Andrew Hall, Kenneth Asuquo, Melissa Pegg, John Trepasso, and Nathaniel Kulyk will be officially bidding Saint Vincent College a fond farewell. All of these brothers have selflessly dedicated a great deal of time and effort to this fraternity, and they will all be greatly missed at Xi.

Overall, this has been a very successful year for Xi Chapter, filled with great accomplish-

ments and a great deal of promise for the future. We look forward to next year and to the privilege that we have in the preparation and the hosting of convention in 2005!

Respectfully Submitted in Brotherhood,
Beth Demharter

OMICRON CHAPTER

Omicron has been very busy in the last year. Omicron chapter has grown in several respects. We have strengthened our involvement in the Roanoke College community and we have also strengthened as an organization. In the last year we went from an organization that was once fairly unknown to Roanoke College, to one that has become synonymous with musical activity.

We have been called upon on several occasions to help with various functions including student recitals and A Cappella Carnivella, which is an annual showcase of various a cappella groups throughout the state. We do not limit ourselves to strictly musical activities, though. One of our more successful events includes our annual Haunted House which we did for the second time this past October. The Haunted House Committee headed by our SMAC, BreAnna Lawson, was able to create the design and back-story of a doomed Opera House. Using the theme of a Haunted Opera House, pledges and brothers (with the aid of visiting National Historian Shari Baxter) were able to transform one of the residence hall basements into the winding maze that was the Opera House. Not only did this event appeal to the Roanoke College Community, but to the Roanoke and Salem communities as well. At the end of all our efforts, we were able to cover the costs of the production from donations alone. Other projects spearheaded by Ms. Lawson include this semester's Valentines Day sing-ograms. Brothers learned madrigals to sing for people who bought them, including the choir director whom many brothers have as an instructor.

Our second major event this year occurred just a few weeks ago at Roanoke College's RC After Dark Program. After a failed attempt last semester, the Omicron Brothers

were able to organize and put on a "Roanoke American Idol" competition. Head by Amanda Corson, the American Idol sub-committee was responsible for organizing the event, procuring prizes from donors, creating a score sheet, and getting judges among other tasks. The contest featured nine contestants and two exhibition acts which were performed by Omicron Brothers Rich Hill, Melissa Carr, and Jess McMahon followed by the Epsilon Pledge Class' rendition of Stacy's Mom. By the end to the evening, Omicron was able to raise over \$200 to benefit Save the Music. Along with this monetary aspect, the event raised awareness of Mu Beta Psi on the Roanoke College campus with one judge commenting, "I've never seen this many people in the Cavern [where the event was held] in a long time." Without a doubt, Omicron Chapter is going to try to make American Idol another one of its annual events. It is with activities like these that Omicron Chapter has been successful in getting the name of Mu Beta Psi out around campus.

Omicron has also been able to grow internally as a chapter as well. With the exception of meetings that require the elections of officers, Omicron's average Brotherhood meeting time is down to approximately one hour. This is because Omicron delegates any major needs to its various committees. Once a decision is made in the committee then business is finished at the weekly brotherhood meeting. Omicron has found this way of doing things very efficient, especially with the Brothers being involved in several other organizations and activities on campus. Also, Omicron has attained voting member status on the Campus Activities Board (CAB) which has opened up a large amount of funding and sponsorship from the college for the various activities that Omicron puts on throughout the school year.

Omicron has also been had two wonderful pledge classes this year, Delta and Epsilon, both led by Pledge Master Kristin Jasper. Omicron has gained ten new brothers to help offset a large number of brothers graduating this year. Kristen has tried some new ideas to help the Pledges learn the material required of them, as well as getting the Brotherhood more involved in the pledging process, with the introduction of a new pledg-

ing policy and the use of other methods to help reinforce the material so initiations run more efficiently and smoothly.

On a final note, it must be stated that nine brothers of the current active membership graduate from Roanoke College in May, including two-thirds of the current Omicron Executive Committee. Therefore, most of the Executive Committee will be brand new to an elected office. To make this transition process less painful the current officers are doing their best to train the new officers-elect in their positions.

Ed. Note A report was not available from this chapter, so the last available report was used.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Ryan Hauck

The Alumni Association has spent the last year breaking in a new set of Officers, pursuing goals set by the National President, and seeking ways to retain and increase membership. In this report are some the highlights of the Chapter's activities since the last Clef was published.

Last summer the Alumni Association met in Detroit, Michigan for our annual Mid-Year meeting. The meeting was small, yet the Brothers in attendance were enthusiastic. We had very candid and productive discussions about where the Alumni Association was, where it is going, and where we want it to be. Some main points of the meeting:

- The Music Promotion Committee, which included the "Rewind Online" project, was disbanded.

- The Chapter wants organize a reception/info session for soon-to-be Alumni at National Convention 2004. This event will be a short, low-key event for Brothers to find out more about the AA and what benefits can be derived from joining.

- Acting on a suggestion from the National President, the Alumni are working towards creating Officer Handbooks for all of the National Officer positions. We felt that with our membership full of current and ex-National Officers, we were in a unique position to offer lots of experience and perspective on those Offices. We hope to create, main-

tain, and distribute short (1-2 page) descriptions of the duties, obligations, commitments, pitfalls, special considerations, and rewards of being an Officer. We decided to keep this as an Alumni project (instead of turning it over to Nationals) for ease of administration and to keep Nationals' burden from increasing.

- We discussed "outsourcing" alumni to local existing service organizations—having the Alumni Association serve as a "clearing-house" to find local groups that could use our help, making arrangements with them, and sending over willing alumni. This work would be our version of community service projects.

- We talked about our idea to collect old letter shirts from Alumni who aren't involved anymore and distributing them to currently-active Brothers. This "recycled letter shirts" concept is still in its infant stages but we hope to make progress soon.

- We had a long discussion about reorganizing the Alumni Association to make it feel more like a traditional Alumni organization. This effort involves focusing on reaching more towards all our existing Alumni out there and getting them only as involved as they feel comfortable—whether that be with donations, networking, or leadership—without obligating them to become Active in the National Organization. We hope to refine this idea over the next few years and we hope that it will show an increased benefit to both our Alumni and the Fraternity as a whole.

The Alumni Association also met at Convention 2004; although this meeting was shorter and thus not as much was discussed, some highlights include:

- The Chapter discussed how we can utilize our restricted fund. Possible ideas include: distributing "mini-grants" to Chapters to help with larger projects; and funding projects local to our Alumni membership, such as buying instruments for schools.

- Officer Handbooks: This idea did not come to fruition between Mid-Year 2003 and Convention 2004; however, the Chapter still wants to pursue the idea and hopes to make progress by Mid-Year 2004.

- We once again talked about the re-organization of the Alumni Association to attract Alumni who were interested in staying affiliated, but not necessary being an active mem-

ber of a Chapter. This discussion will continue at Mid-Year 2004.

- We hosted a very successful drop-in reception for graduating Brothers, where we provided refreshments, disseminated information, and answered questions about what the Alumni Association was, what it does, what its benefits are, and how new members can help us as well.

- The Alumni Association voted to award the Major Christian D. Kutschinski Award for Outstanding Chapter for 2003 to Zeta Chapter.

The Alumni Association is now approximately 20 members strong, and we hope to keep growing—especially with graduation just around the bend! Keep an eye out for announcements from the Alumni Association, and as always, we encourage everyone to join upon graduation. We feel we have a strong Chapter with many enthusiastic Brothers involved, and hope to strengthen our efforts to support the Fraternity and to give all Brothers the chance to contribute to Mu Beta Psi after they graduate. We can always use your ideas and energy to help us become a better organization. You may contact any of the officers for information or visit our website at <http://alumni.mubetapsi.org>.

May Brotherhood Prevail!

Extra! Extra!

Former National President Jon Fielbrandt and his wife Sheryl (Nugent), both Zeta alumni, welcomed their first child to the world on Tuesday, November 4 2003 at 10:39pm! Their new daughter Evelyn Ruth tipped the scales at 6lb 13oz and is 19 inches long. Mother, Father, and Evelyn are all doing well, and the new parents are naturally thrilled beyond description. The National Fraternity and the Alumni Association congratulate the Fielbrandt family on this joyful event!

Congratulations to Kevin Britton and Jodi Cianek, both Zeta alumni, on their marriage on September 27, 2003! The wedding was well-attended by Brothers young and old. The bride and groom are making their home in Saginaw, MI. Mu Beta Psi and the Alumni Association send congratulations and best wishes to the new couple!

REFLECTIONS ON MU BETA PSI

PARTING WORDS

Ryan Hauck

This article was to have been my last contribution to *The Clef* as National President, but unfortunately my words didn't make it to press early enough. Therefore, I'd like to offer it as a postscript to my Presidency, now that I have retired from elected office, and hope that it still retains much of its value and impact. My time in Mu Beta Psi has been a most incredible experience—ten years as a Brother, six years as NVPE, two as NP—and I thought that perhaps I'd look back on those years and share some collected reflections.

Brotherhood is lots of things. It's making sacrifices—often ones you don't want to make—to help the greater good. It's losing a whole night of sleep to come to your Brother's aid. It's risking the wrath of your significant other to fulfill a fraternal promise. It's crying on a shoulder one minute and having your shoulder cried upon the next. It's games and competitions, service projects and fundraisers. It's unforgettable Convention parties, legendary road trips, and stories that live on in fraternity lore for years. It's hours upon hours upon hours of laughter. It's eternal friendship; the friends that I have made (and will make) thanks to Mu Beta Psi are lifelong. "We cherish the lasting bonds that bind us: music and fraternity." I never cease to be amazed how easy it is to make friends in this organization, no matter our backgrounds. One of the things that keeps me coming back to Mu Beta Psi is how quickly we all become family.

Mu Beta Psi moves in cycles that are longer than the typical Brother's tenure as an active participant. Because of that, many Brothers don't see the "current" cycle in which they are operating. Interest in the National Organization ebbs and wanes; the PBOTs' responsibilities increase and decrease; Officer accountability restricts and relaxes; communication comes in floods, then droughts; interest in cross-Chapter participation grows and shrinks. For example, most of us can't remem-

ber a time when visiting another Chapter was almost taboo, but I remember it well. It would serve the Fraternity well to always be mindful that we move in cycles, to know where we are in a cycle and adjust our attitudes appropriately to avoid destabilization, and to recognize that older Brothers are invaluable resources to help identify cycles and guide the Fraternity (both locally and nationally) through them. We must find a way to retain more Brothers after graduation, and Chapters must utilize their alumni as resources.

We must always be ambassadors for this fraternity, no matter where we are or with whom we interact. Our actions and words



National Convention 2004, Nu Chapter. A gift from the Fraternity to Ryan Hauck (far left) presented by (l-r) Stephanie Miller and Alana Kirby

reflect on Mu Beta Psi even when we are not officially representing it. You must constantly project a positive image of us to your fellow students, your school's faculty and staff, prospective students, your community, even your family. A personal grudge, a missed class, a failing grade can harm Mu Beta Psi. Even an casual remark can cause disproportionate damage to our reputation and our effectiveness. Wear your letters with pride and represent them well; always remember that to others around you, you are Mu Beta Psi. You must live up to that high standard, something you committed to when you joined this amazing organization.

It comes as no surprise to anyone that contributing to Mu Beta Psi takes dedication and effort. I have said for as long as I can remember that being in Psi is not difficult, but it does take commitment. Brothers learn as

pledges that they must budget Psi into their lives; as Brothers, we must constantly remember and refine that requirement. One cannot be a successful Brother if they don't make a conscious effort to plan Mu Beta Psi into, and around, their lives. Half-hearted attempts to be an active Brother "when you can" or "when you feel like it" doom oneself to frustration and failure. Nobody asks every Brother to make this Fraternity their entire life. But to succeed in Psi you must, as with anything else, make a level of commitment and stick to it. You must remember your commitment as you work through the struggles of Brotherhood—the long meetings, the service requirements, the "homework", the burnouts, the disagreements and differences in philosophy.

Furthermore, we must remember that sometimes all the hard work and unappreciated efforts result in little more than Mu Beta Psi fighting on to live another day. It is important to remember that we must all fight to see that next day, and help each other make it there. I once remarked to my religious community, the Baha'i Faith, that unlike Christianity we have no clergy. Thus where Christianity can be classified into the "shepherd" (clergy) and the "flock" (congregation), in the Baha'i Faith we are all shepherds. In Mu Beta Psi we share a similar concept. At one time or another we all become the shepherds of our own fraternal future—we can not sit back, complacent, and "let someone else do it." Very often, there is no "someone else." You must remember that you are the shepherd of your Chapter and your Fraternity—you must guide it, nurture it, and keep it safe from dangers.

When I became a National Officer I don't think I truly understood what it meant to be "nationally conscious"—my life focused around Delta Chapter. But as I got to know each Chapter more and more, my experiences were enriched beyond measure and "home" became not just Delta, but anywhere Mu Beta Psi (and its alumni!) resides. I began to understand the benefit of knowing ALL the

Reflections cont'd p. 15...

RHYTHM, MUSIC, ACTION

Megan Roble

Recently, I had the chance to take an elective community college course called Introduction to Rhythmic Drumming. As a clarinetist, I have a good grasp on overall performance, but my weak spot is rhythm. While I took the class mostly for fun and to improve this weakness, I learned many things about music in general, and was reminded of several qualities that good musicians should possess.

The course instructor, Jim Donovan, is a well-known drummer from Pittsburgh who teaches lessons in the area, as well as sells drums and produces an informative website on drumming and rhythm (jimdonovanmusic.com). However, he is best known as the drummer from the national act Rusted Root. His mellow personality and love for music is clear to his students through his love of teaching.

The course focused not on traditional snare drumming, but on rhythmic drumming. Specifically, we used Djembe drums, which are made of wood, are knee height, and are played by hand. Various tones are made by striking different areas of the drum head with different parts of the hand.

The focus of the four-part course was not on reading music or learning particular pieces, but on how rhythm and music can affect people emotionally and physically. For example, one exercise we played as a group was a Nigerian piece called the “heart beat rhythm.” This piece stays at a steady 58 beats per minute, which is the same as the heart at the time in between wakefulness and sleeping, at those last moments before falling asleep. Playing at this speed, the class became relaxed, and described the experience as “away from everything,” “peaceful,” and “ethereal.”

Some of the more important lessons—other than drumming techniques—included the following:

1. The biggest mistake in music is to be *Drums cont'd p. 14...*

LOG ON NOW!



NEW BROTHERS' INTRANET LAUNCHED

Kevin Britton

At the 2004 National Convention, the National Information Technology Committee (NITC) launched the new Brothers' Intranet. The site brings together all the features of the original Brothers area of the national website, and combines them with a new message board, chatroom, calendar, and more!

Most importantly, the basis for the new website is the National Brothers Database, a way to track biographical, fraternal, and geographical information about Brothers. Brothers who participate can choose to share a variety of information, and select how the information can be used. A search function on the website permits searching of the database, within the bounds of the security settings selected when entering information.

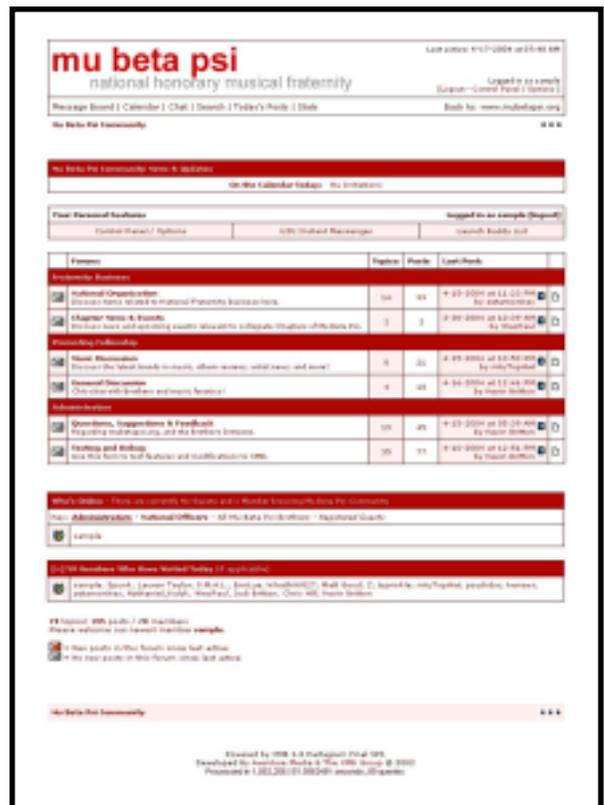
The site is still a work in progress, and there are still some features that are being debugged; however, it is already proving to be a powerful collaboration tool, and will only become

better as the administrative staff works out the kinks.

To access the new Brothers' Intranet, visit <http://www.mubetapsi.org> and click on the “Brothers Login” link. You will need to enter the login information for the old Brothers area in order to access the registration and login pages of the new site. If you need assistance in accessing the site, please contact the webmaster at webmaster@mubetapsi.org. Be sure to provide enough fraternal information so your Brotherhood status can be verified!

A user's guide to the intranet is currently being developed, and will be announced over email lists when it is ready to release. If you are not any national email lists (including alumni lists), please contact the Webmaster if you would like to be notified of the release.

See you online!



Message Boards at the new Brothers Intranet help promote collaboration between Chapters

MBØ SEEKING DEDICATED, CARING BROTHER

Ben Griffeth

Brothers: Ladies and Gentlemen,

Who should we consider for the permanent Board of Trustees? It is a question I have been puzzling since announcing the vacancy. Bryan and I spent some time discussing the issue. It is not right to expect someone to fill the void left by Gayle. Yet, what are the criteria by which we should measure her successor?

First, they should be a Brother, not just in membership but in stature. Someone on whom ALL can rely regardless of circumstance; who has advice, intellect, and bail money at 3 am.

They should serve, not just in Records management (the open role) but in skills to listen, remember, advise, and honor. They should expect to do more jobs than they want at times that are less than opportune. They should expect that they will be on the wrong side of the Brotherhood but have the ability to stand the test.

Last, they should be timely, not in response to email or requests from the Editor but also understanding that time is our ally and our adversary. This Brotherhood has a rich history of time; we approach the 80th year. This is older than many of our oldest relatives. Our founders had no understanding of full world war, genocide, nuclear winter, genetically altered tomatoes, yet they were able to chart our common path to honor music. How strange to try and guide and advise a body that often does to remember a time before online conferences or that sometimes there are PEOPLE on the other end of that AIM.

So what the hell am I trying to say? We should ask the best of us to come forward to by on the Board of Trustees. We should ask for someone who understands that they will not always be there in form but EVERYONE knows is there in spirit. Someone willing to sacrifice sleep, money, tears and fears for the sake of advance the Fraternity and music to its rightful place. Someone not

scared to say when he was a Brother we did things one way and were WRONG. Humility, honor, service and prestige. Bryan, Tim and I look forward to meeting our new Brother.

Dr. Benjamin T. Griffeth, C-BOT



SUMMERVILLE COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA UPDATE

Ryan Hauck

At Convention 2003, Mu Beta Psi graciously approved a \$100 donation to the fledging Summerville (S.C.) Community Orchestra (SCO), a group with which I have been involved since January 2003, its third week of founding. I wanted to provide a quick update on the progress of the orchestra so that you could see some of your dollars at work!

The SCO received Mu Beta Psi's donation in late Spring, just after our first-ever concert. At the time, we were playing music donated from the director's library because we had no funding to buy our own music. Along with donations from the community, we were able to purchase about four new pieces of music for our Fall/Christmas 2003 concert. The money also helped pay for mailings, flyers, and concert invitations. The Fall/Christmas concert was a huge success; it was the largest concert yet, with almost 150 people in attendance and over \$300 in new donations collected. I am very proud to say that Mu Beta Psi was instrumental (no pun intended!) in that success. In fact, Mu Beta Psi's contribution remains the largest single donation that the organization has received to date.

This Spring, the SCO continues to rehearse and perform; our next concert will be April 25th. Although we are still (and will probably always) operate on a shoestring budget, it is donations like the one from our Fraternity that make a tremendous impact on our ability to bring music to our community, encourage fellowship among musicians, and to allow SCO members to do what we love—

make music. On behalf of the Summerville Community Orchestra, I thank Mu Beta Psi for their generosity and hope that we can make similar contributions in the future to music groups wherever our Brothers may roam.



...Drums cont'd from p. 13

tentative. When playing, there is no time to think. Just do. If you make a mistake, make it on time.

2. Listening is more important than visuals. In fact, much of the class consisted of us playing with our eyes closed. We learned to omit all other senses. Visual cues will confuse what the ear already knows.

3. The first don't of music is to say you can't do something. The second is to put yourself down when you make a mistake.

4. Music is a personal conversation where you listen and converse back and forth with the people you play with. Many pieces are a question and answer session with others.

5. The best compliment in drumming (or any other type of music) is to copy someone else. Don't be afraid to borrow style, yet don't be afraid to create your own. Music is a sharing art.

6. Never watch others. By the time you follow, you will be behind, and will never get back on track without stopping and listening.

7. Ensemble playing is supportive, not a group of solos. In a group, the sum of the parts does not equal to as much as the whole.



...Staying Active cont'd from p. 17

6. Willingness to make it work -- this was not just on my part but the fact was if I had not been willing to stay involved, I could have easily slipped away. Also my brothers were essential in all of the facets of my status by letting know about changes of meeting times, assignments, and anything else that keeps things moving

I hope this helps people making the tough decision between Active and In-Active.

...Reflections cont'd from p.12

Chapters of this fraternity. Each one has its own distinct personality, its own quirks, its own strengths and weaknesses, its own traditions. Each one is worthy of celebration and admiration, yet together they form a mighty instrument that wields incredible potential. Sometimes we struggle to find that potential; it can take years to develop an eye for it. After 8 years of thinking like a "National Brother", I can see our potential simmering just beneath the surface – it is simply waiting for us to reach out and grasp it.

"Music is the soul of life, ever is our creed." Music is all around us: the buzz of a bee, the rhythmic chug of a train, the mournful peal of a church bell, the cry of a baby, the aria of a soprano, the rich tones of a symphony. Music resonates within all of us, strums an ancient chord inside us that reaches back tens of thousands of years. More than anything, Mu Beta Psi exists to inspire awe and reverence for music. To experience the essence of Mu Beta Psi you must open your soul to music and let it shake your entire foundation. When you find that essence and share it with others, you have found the hidden mysteries of Mu Beta Psi.

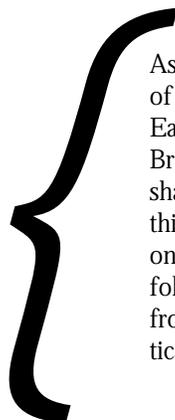
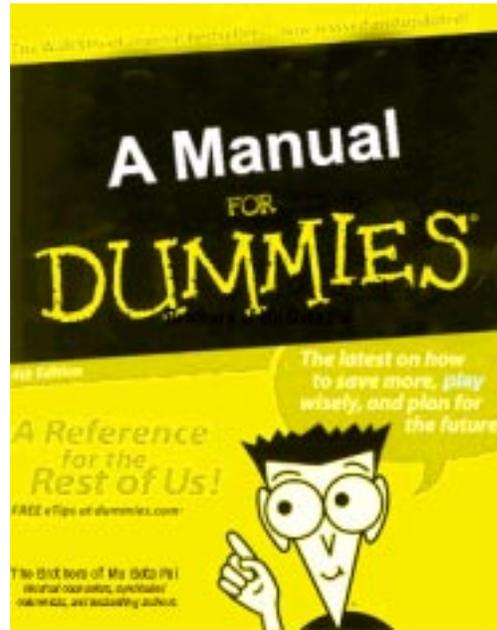


WHAT HAVE BROTHERS BEEN LISTENING TO?



- *10,000 Years* by Honeydogs
- *Toxicity* by System of a Down
- *Songs About Jane* by Maroon 5
- *Mezzanine* by Massive Attack
- *Fallen* by Evanescence
- *Sountrack to Wicked*
- *Cathedrals* by Jump Little Children
- Mu Chapter Mix CD
- *Another Happy Ending* by Clarks

Information culled from a discussion on the Brothers' Intranet



As Brothers of Mu Beta Psi, we share a love of music, service, and our fellow Brothers. Each of us brings something unique to our Brotherhood; each Chapter brings its own share of experiences to the Fraternity. For this issue, I asked Brothers to submit articles on topics they felt they had insights. The following pages include "How To" articles from five Brothers on topics varying in practicality. Enjoy!

- The Editor

FEATURES: “HOW TO...” (A MANUAL)

HOW TO LOSE

A PLEDGE IN TEN DAYS

Chris Faulkenberry & Amy Dallen

Day One

Inform them that this semester's theme is Hungarian Bluegrass, and English will no longer be tolerated.

Info Set 1: The make and model of the founder's first car, along with the middle names of every President... of Zimbabwe. Inform pledges that the hazing policy is really more of a guideline than an actual rule.

Day Two

Beach trip. Pledge pins still mandatory. Bury pledgebooks in sand. Bury pledges in sand.

Day Three

Today, the pledges must complete one task from a free choice of two: bring me the head of John the Baptist, or perform the Complete Works of Stephen Sondheim. Omissions will result in withering glares.

Info Set 2: Please memorize: The Fraternity Song, the Fraternity Flower, the Fraternity Founder, the Fraternity Reptile, the Fraternity Boat, the Fraternity Dog, the Fraternity Favorite Beatles Song, the Fraternity Sexual Preference, the Fraternity Noble Gas, the Fraternity Sonnet, the Fraternity Epic Poem, the Fraternity Song Cycle and the Fraternity Concept Musical.

Day Four

Do not show up at the meeting, do not answer pledges' phone calls, and see if they just go away on their own. If they persist for two weeks or longer, consult your local physician.

Day Five

Midterm: How do Whitehead's ideas of grief illuminate the themes of Neon Genesis Evangelion and how do they both operate in post-postmodern society as illustrated by Mu Beta Psi?

Day Six

Retrieve the Scepter of Destiny from the Cavern of Doom. Beware Klaxxis'itss, the fire-breathing dragon. We regret to inform you, however, that your Princess is in another

castle.

Info Set 3: The founding date, location, school and Greek letter of every chapter of Mu Beta Psi, annotated. No, just kidding, that would be too evil.

Day Seven

Ask the pledges to contemplate in silence the meaning of music to their lives. Then encase their heads in plastic bags for the day so they can understand what it would be like to never hear it again. Or, you know, just for fun.

Day Eight

Midterm 2: Are you allergic to goats? Are you afraid of goats? Are you attracted to goats? Have you considered becoming a goat? Can you make that Goat-boy noise? Are you now or have you ever been affiliated with the Communist Party? How many times a day do you usually pet your goat? How many goats would a billygoat goat if a billygoat could goat goats? What is the airspeed velocity of an unladen goat?

Day Nine

Thank you, sir, may I have another?

Day Ten

Allow your pledges to believe that they in fact must sing continuously together for hours, *without repeating a song*, and berate them for their failure to maintain this for extended periods of time. If they still don't go away... you're probably stuck with them.

Welcome them to Mu Beta Psi.



HOW TO MAINTAIN A SUCCESSFUL PLEDGE CLASS

Kristen M. Jasper

As two semesters as a Pledge Master, I feel like I have a solid grip on this topic. After all, of the six members in our Delta class, three of them are now officers. It's only a matter of time that Epsilon steps up to the plate. I have tried very hard to get these new brothers to want to be an active part of what Mu Beta Psi does. In order to keep our chapters

alive, we need to show the new kids what Brotherhood is about. So, in order to streamline this a bit, here's my top five list:

5. Make them do things together. I've found that when you MAKE them plan an activity together, they get closer as a group, and to the brothers. In the past I've had them plan a social for the Brothers and pledges.

4. Don't ever cut the important speeches. We tried cutting one of our most serious talks from our Initiations ceremony once, and the brothers that we got out of it are great, but consistently, when this particular speech is used, the group immediately unifies. And for a particularly emotional group, Pledge Masters, be their friend, be on their "side." They need a brother to understand, and you are the closest to them.

3. Let them run their own meetings. This makes work easier for the PM, and it makes the pledges do some of their own work. It's ok, they can do it.

2. Encourage, encourage, encourage! It's a teacher skill: give them two things they are doing well, then give them the bad news. If they are failing quizzes, let them know that we want them in the Fraternity, and that they have so much to add to Mu Beta Psi, but they need to work harder.

1. Give specific assignments. Especially in small pledge classes, it's important to make each pledge feel needed. The best way to accomplish this is through giving special duties to each, whether you are just asking them to bring something to the next meeting, or if you need someone to help you make copies.

In reality, these are all important, and it doesn't really matter which order they are in. All I know is that the Pledge Master needs to be compassionate, dedicated, and tough. If the PM can show these qualities to their pledges, they will pick up on it. While my list gives specific things to do, it all really falls on the PM. The PM has to emit brotherhood in everyway. If they can do this, strong new brothers will be following in their footsteps.

ED. NOTE I edited #4 on the list here to exclude the name of the specific speech referenced, in order to protect our private ceremonies.

HOW TO PLAN A CONVENTION AND NOT KILL YOURSELF

Emily Southworth

As I see it, there are two ways to plan a convention -- the right way and the Nu way! With the right way, everything has been ordered, planned, reserved and taken care of about 3 weeks before Convention actually arrives. With the Nu way, you're doing things up to the moment, but very discreetly so no one knows that you are really going crazy.

Now, with planning a Convention, you are given a year to plan everything. From the moment that the convention from the prior year is over, the Convention Coordinator is able to begin planning as early as the next day he or she returns from Convention. And the right way to do it is that the Convention Coordinator actually attended the Convention of the past year so that they know what needs to get done and they can get any tips, advice and so on from the chapter that just finished hosting Convention. With the Nu way, we basically began it that same way. Once we returned from Convention 2003 at Mu, I was put in charge of beginning to plan Convention and then someone would take my position. So we're doing good here so far.

With the right way to do Convention, everything is planned out right away and you use the months you are off from school to "plan" everything. Get an idea of what kind of bags you want to buy, the padfolios- or whatever you choose to use, what kind of goodies you want to give the Brothers and so on. Shop around at stores and online to find the best deals and find stuff you like. Now with the Nu way, we didn't do it like that- that part didn't happen until the semester of Convention. But we'll get back to this point.

Now the best way to plan a Convention is to DELEGATE!! Give everyone a job. It's at your chapter, everyone should play a role in it's execution and it makes them feel that they have made a big contribution to the cause- and it's MUCH less stress on you as the coordinator. Now, Nu did this. I was given a list of things that we needed for Convention from Ryan that was created in 1996

and once we returned to school, Convention Committee took up a good portion of the meeting as I waited for people to volunteer for positions and it worked! Another great idea is if you have a Social Committee, as Convention Coordinator, DO NOT be the chair of Social Committee. You've got enough on your plate with Convention. Let the Social Committee chair be in charge of the Banquet and the parties- ALL aspects of the banquet and the parties, so that you can just concentrate on the meetings and the technical aspects of a Convention.

A problem that most chapters probably run into initially deals with finance. Throughout the fall semester, Nu had a terrible time with fundraisers for Convention. We would have carwashes and it rained, we would enable the music faculty to rent a brother for an hour and they never took advantage of the opportunity. To make yourself feel better about this, know that you will be getting money from registration to pay for the banquet hall and the bags and padfolios and goodies and so on. Find someone with a credit card who can order the goodies and then reimburse them after registration fees come in. You will be amazed at how much money you will get. Plan an estimated budget and include the prospective money gains from the registration fees and you will soon feel much more comfortable. The right way would be to begin fundraising as soon as you return from the prior Convention, but if you fell into the trap that Nu did, know that you'll be alright.

Finally, know that no matter what, you've got people around you to help, from the National President and National Officers to both active members and alumni from your own chapter. And once everyone finally arrives at the hotel or designated room at your chapter, get them and yourself to a bar and have a beer and enjoy seeing all your fellow Brothers in one room together. It is one unlike any other and makes for the happiest moment of Convention! Thank you so much to everyone who came to Convention 2004 at Nu Chapter this year. We had a wonderful time meeting people from other chapters. You have all made it one of the most amazing and fulfilling experiences of my life and I will never part with the memories!

HOW TO STAY ACTIVE (WHEN YOU'RE ALREADY TOO BUSY)

Sarah Morrison

Everyone in our fraternity loves music and finds a way to bring it into our lives even if it is simply listening to it in the car as we juggle our various activities. Yet how can we stay Active in the brotherhood when things get to be a bit overwhelming?

This was a question I tackled this spring when I found myself adding a new part-time job to my already crowded schedule. I sadly did drop to Special Active but through my brothers have managed to stay active and fulfill all of my requirements. Here were the needs I found have to be met for someone to stay involved even when it seems impossible:

1. *A good secretary.* Minutes are crucial and announcements keep everyone informed!

2. *An amazing head Musical Activities Coordinator.* I was able to do all of my service hours because we had so many projects and I could find the ones that worked in my schedule.

3. *An organized mind* -- or at least a good calendar. I found that by keeping a solid month calendar I could watch what was coming up and plan better. This includes my extensive class work (19 hours), my work schedule (20 hours) and the many committee meetings, service projects, etc that being a productive member of the Fraternity requires.

4. *Flexible people.* It was extremely stressful on the chapter when I resigned my office (Secretary) due to an inability to attend the regular meeting time. As my brothers flexed to fill that empty space we still managed to keep people informed.

5. *Productive meetings.* Mu Chapter is great at keeping on task and completing business. This has translated to not just Brother's meetings but committee meetings as well! I was able to stay involved in all of my committee requirements (not a small number, mind you!) because I knew that we would get done in a reasonable amount of time -- back to that calendar that I keep up with!



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