



Mu Beta Psi National Honorary Music Fraternity www.mubetapsi.org

### Conventions Past & Present

By Shari Baxter, National Historian

The first reported meeting of Alpha and Delta Chapters occurred in 1947 when the two Chapters met to socialize. Though the location is not disclosed, the S & W Cafeteria was the preferred option.

Discussions continued over the next few years about having other meetings between the Chapters. One controversial event, occurring at Alpha Chapter in January 1949, luckily never became a National incident. The "Water Throwing Incident of '49" was outlined in Alpha Chapter minutes:

... There was discussion on having a convention in collaboration with the Clemson Chapter of Mu Beta Psi. Mr. Parks was called down for throwing water on Mr. Higgins. Hurley King got his glasses washed as innocent bystander. The meeting resumed...

Official Convention minutes appear from Convention 1961 hosted by Delta Chapter. On November 24, 1961, Brothers from Alpha and Delta met in the club room of Delta Chapter, where the amendment to allow both men and women as members to the Fraternity was added to the constitution. The motion was passed to make the organization more attractive to schools with co-ed music groups that were interested in joining the Fraternity. The issue of "Brotherhood" was discussed as stated in the minutes:

After considerable discussion it was voted by a majority in favor of the amendment despite the fact that it was pointed out that a "fraternity" is a brotherhood; a body of men associated for their common interest, etc. ...

Also at this meeting, Brother Ted Halverson moved to inaugurate a "national" publication, establishing *The Clef*. The National Editor of the Clef officer position would be approved at Convention 1966.

On March 11, 1967, the Brotherhood approved the current version of "Hail the Spirit of Mu Beta Psi."

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### **Announcements & Reminders**

- Submissions from all Chapters and National Officers to National Historian Shari Baxter are due December 31, 2006.
- All Pledging and NCCM reports and pledgingrelated guides, rituals, and supplemental materials from collegiate Chapters are due to NVPCM Chrissy Bischoff by December 31, 2006. Sensitive material must be sent via certified mail to ensure security.
- ☐ The Alumni Association is pleased to announce that the 2007 Convention will take place March 9-10 in Clemson, S.C. Registrations are due by February 1, 2007. Look online for updates over the coming months (convention.mubetapsi.org).
- Thanks to Alex Dimitijeski's hard work, Zeta Chapter's website is now on the National server. Check it out (zeta.mubetapsi.org)!

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### In Brief ... the Horn

By Benjamin T. Griffeth

The horn as represented on the crest for Mu Beta Psi came into existence around the 17<sup>th</sup> century in France. Originally a hunting horn, or *cor de chasse*, this was the first horn to be coiled around for easy carrying and one-handed use. It was revised over the centuries into the multi-tubed and -valved instrument of today. Despite this most recent derivation, horns have been used since ancient times as instruments of music, communication, or even war.

Though the horn's roots are prehistoric (think of the didgeridoo of Australia), the Bible mentions the use of the horn, likely a shofar, in the defeat of the West Bank city of Jericho (Joshua 6:26). Israelites are among the earliest people to incorporate the horn into religious and festival rites and continue to use them today. Many accounts describe the use of horns to signal troop movements from the time of Alexander up to and through the Crimean War.

As the Bronze Age advanced, horns were made of metal for use in communications, though wooden horns still abounded. During the 16<sup>th</sup> century, horns started moving from service to ceremonial use with the advent of heraldic trumpeting.

The hunt horn arrived around the same time to assist in the "progression of the field" through the stages of a hunt. The need for a small, easy-to-use device (preferably one-handed) with the ability to provide multiple notes led to the development of this longer curved horn.

Music calling for the brass instruments first appeared in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century with the development of the clarino register of instruments, which take advantage of the overtones being closer together. With the addition of hand stopping, a single brass instrument was capable of multiple notes, leading to an explosion in the use of horns in compositions. Handel called for two horns in his Water Music (1717), marking one of the earliest arrangements for brass in the major orchestra. The 1826 advent of valved horns led to a revolution in horn design and use. With increased chromatic variation, brass instruments evolved into most of the current symphonic instruments. Though there have been variations over the years (valved trombone, anyone?), the four-instrument symphonic brass has been a constant for more than a century. 🎜

### The Unsung Measures

By An Anonymous Brother

"If [the Brotherhood] can relate and appreciate, great. If they get a laugh out of how bad it is, that's wonderful, too. If it encourages them to try and write one of higher quality and submit it, even better."

I sang a familiar song each day, Content in a well-rehearsed routine, Yet no chance to improvise. Until life's conductor threw me cues, And suddenly I crossed another's eyes.

A new song, a new melody, a new key, Would a new song only last a few bars in life's great score?

How could it, if played pianissimo for only a few measures?

Indulge in the muse's power of subliminal melody!

Dance, with the gods of art and song! And love and art's sweet mystery ... How can I resist the beauty of the music for very long? Knowing for certain it was meant to be?

How is it sin to sing a new song
Knowing the experience cannot last?
It was written into my life's score.
And will one dance really destroy the piece
That existed before the new measures came to pass?

In measures we don't know when will be I long for you to sing with me.
No regrets. It was real, you see,
And no apologies.



### Xi: Looking Beyond Goodbye

Dear Brothers,

On September 19, 2006, the Brothers active at Xi Chapter voted for the Chapter to go inactive. Xi Chapter had been struggling for some time due to a combination of low membership, internal conflicts, a degradation of the pledging process, and a deterioration of St. Vincent College's music program. I had the unfortunate duty of overseeing the final steps of Xi Chapter and of informing the Brotherhood of this news. As a Brotherhood, we shared a time of mourning and loss for this excellent Chapter, and I'm still very saddened by these events.

With that said, I've been disappointed in the two months since this decision was made by the lack of solidarity and effort I've seen in so many places. I had hoped that we as a Brotherhood would rally around this fallen Chapter and inspire ourselves and each other to work harder than before in our pursuit of music, service, and Brotherhood. I expected that losing a Chapter in an already small Fraternity would be a wake-up call to other Chapters and to the Brotherhood as a whole. Instead, I see so many Brothers still hitting the snooze button, waiting for a time when the duties at hand will not have to be their problem. Leonard Bernstein once said, "this will be our response to violence: to make music more intensely, more beautifully and more devotedly than ever before." I challenge the Brotherhood that our response to loss should be to feel Brotherhood more intensely, to make music more beautifully, and to serve our Fraternity and our musical communities more devotedly than ever before. I'm asking everyone to work towards realizing Mu Beta Psi's full potential and to make Xi the last Chapter we ever have to lose.

#### Chrissy Bischoff, NVPCM

I've also been thinking about what my future is with Psi, as it's clear that in my profession and changing family situation it's next to impossible for me to be contributing in the form of attending Conventions annually. Perhaps I need to make the effort to become active again in some way. Perhaps that idea that I've been on since the 1998 Convention of getting a history of MBPsi published needs to get going.

All this is to say how shocked and perplexed I am about this, though perhaps I shouldn't be. Perhaps a recolonization is a possibility .... Regardless, I must now get used to being a Brother of a Chapter that is no more! In this I join a host of fine Brothers whom I've met over the years.

Chris Rodkey, former Xi President and National President Ironically, I'm a much better and stronger Brother due to the hardships Xi faced and could not beat. During my undergraduate years at Saint Vincent, I was a very local Brother. ... I was so busy on Chapter planning that I left any inter-Chapter or National contacts and connections to the President and MAL. ... I felt that we were there first and foremost to serve St. Vincent College musically. However, I see now ... what I missed.

At this past 2006 Convention, only two Brothers represented Xi, and we were both alumni ... This underrepresentation encouraged the two of us to be social with other Chapters more than we had been at past Conventions and discuss ideas with those coming from different schools. I've no other way to explain how fun and valuable these new connections and friendships were except for "priceless." It took me four years as a Brother to realize the value of networking.

Also, when hurting, others come to your aid. It was apparent at this last Convention that Xi was hurting, and I was amazed at the amount of support everyone gave me for my Chapter. ... I left that Convention with *friends* and Brothers, as opposed to all the other Conventions where I left with just having met a lot of people whose names I recognized. It pains me that it took so long to realize what Brotherhood meant and how valuable of a thing I almost missed. ... As a result, I've been able to trust and depend on all my Brothers, and even feel strong connections with those of you I haven't even met vet. I even traveled to Mu Chapter to visit over the summer and realized as a result of my visit that even if Xi closes for good, I still have Brothers everywhere and am welcome at any Chapter. The loss of Xi doesn't mean that the Fraternity is lost to Xi Brothers.

... For me, I can guarantee you that my Chapter closing does not mean I'm done with Mu Beta Psi.... I beg all of Xi and all of Delta to stay involved. ... Your Chapter might not be active, but that doesn't mean you have to fade away, too. Maybe I lost my Chapter, but I certainly did not lose my Fraternity.

Megan "Athena" Roble, Xi Chapter

When the time is right, perhaps we can revive our beloved Chapter by showing the new students our history. Telling them of the blood, sweat, and tears the founding fathers shed to create Xi. Demonstrating the bonds we once had. I hope someday that this will just be a proverbial bump in the road for Xi, and not an ending.

I will be doing as much as I can from within. I will keep you posted on my progress and my efforts.

Laurie "Solo" (Racculia) Hougentogler, Xi Chapter, Delta Class, President 2000-2001 Page 4 The Clef

### Off-Key but Rock Solid

By Nick Rosencrans

The sun was shining this afternoon when I walked up the stairs to Jasper for what is probably my last time. I showed up today because there was a job to do: moving the Zeta Piano. It's been a part of Jasper house far longer than anybody left today can remember, and even though none of us truly own the monstrosity, we were all that remained to keep in from fading into our memories.

This piano is heavy. With a cast-iron stomach and a heart full of heavy wood, the piano was used to its home. It had stood in the parlor of Jasper House for almost two decades, and it certainly didn't want to move. And it would have been easier if there was good help to be found; if only the fraternity who calls it "property" could be around en masse to get it to its destination: a smaller house one ¼ mile away. No such luck was to be found today. The only people left behind were those too weak to deal with the heavy load. None of us felt particularly responsible for this giant task, and it would have been easy to say "to heck with it" and leave it stand where it had always been. I have to admit that I didn't want to help ... not only was piano-moving an unsafe idea, it wasn't even feasible with the five bodies that showed up. What's truly amazing is that of those people who were there to move the piano, fewer than half were Brothers. The other half were friends, acquaintances, and unlucky souls who were roped into a job they didn't have any connection to. But, like me, these fine people knew that it was a job we couldn't just walk away from; we'd need to all come together and get that piano out the door, together.

So we called up more people, and we started heaving. It was terrifying and exhilarating at the same time to see it move: terrifying because our tiny bodies were so fragile compared to its sheer weight, but exhilarating because it was actually moving. When we got it to the stairway and began to switch its center of gravity to the stairs, I felt a panic rush to my skin. Could we actually pull this off? Would we be driving people to the hospital because of this? How were we ever going to keep this ancient piano in one piece?

It was then, right when my body started giving up, that I remembered something: I remembered how I made a promise three years ago. I promised myself that no matter what, I will always give my all for this fraternity. The people who make Mu Beta Psi what it truly is can never give up. I had a task in front of me and, however heavy it may be, I had to keep pushing.

I'm a Zeta, and by God that piano was going to make it to the truck.

We heaved and pushed and strained across the two flights of Jasper's stairs. We pulled, yanked and hoisted the piano into the bed of the truck. We managed to drive it to the new house safely and muscle it all the way to its new resting place. We shared high-fives and treated ourselves to ice cream as celebration for a job well done. With luck, the Zeta piano will stand for decades to come, slightly off-key but heartily rock solid. And I'm sure that someday when I'm long gone some other group of bewildered Brothers are going to stare at that challenge before them and find it within them to keep pushing until the job is done.

### Jerry's Listening to Mendelssohn

By Benjamin T. Griffeth

Jerry is listening to Mendelssohn today. It's a good day. Mendelssohn is one of his favorites because it is calm and soothing like he wants to feel. It reminds him of his father, who played viola and took Jerry to concerts of the Asheville Symphony. Jerry has schizophrenia.

When Jerry is not doing well, he listens to Eminem, which he hates. Unfortunately, Mr. Mathers sounds enough like the voices that he hears inside his head that while listening to his rap, Jerry can ignore the voices. Jerry finds it hard to live in a world where he has to choose whether to be tortured by an illness or by the reality that there are parts of the world, even this country, which are only concerned with bling or booty.

Jerry volunteered to go to Korea to fight the "Red Threat." He was so overwhelmed with what he saw and did there that his mind was broken by it. His mother had schizophrenia, but Jerry suspects that if he had not gone to war he would never have had to find out what it was like to be paranoid that your friends are trying to kill you. Jerry was told by his father about his mother's suicide brought on by commands from voices that she could not avoid. Jerry wants to live and so hides from the voices. He takes his medication, which helps, but he also sometimes worries that the medicine is actually poison.

Jerry puts on the headphones. He tells me he might listen to Haydn later on.  ${\cal I}$ 

### World Wide Wondering

### Part III: Integrating Advanced Features into Your Website

By Kevin Britton

In the Fall 2005 issue, we talked about designing your website's look and feel. Now we'll help you spice up your site by adding some interactive features.

#### **Dynamic Content**

One of the best ways to ensure your site remains relevant over time is to incorporate *dynamic content* into the site. This means updating your site without having to directly edit the pages that make it up. Dynamic content includes such things as a news wire, calendar, or blog.

Incorporating dynamic content into a site almost always involves using some type of scripting language, such as PHP, ASP, or CGI. While this invariably involves some knowledge of programming, it's easy to get started, as nearly every scripting language has its own website that includes online documentation.

For an added level of dynamics, consider utilizing a database to store your content. Most scripting languages have built-in features for interacting with a database, making it possible to store and retrieve information in any logical manner conceivable.

Note that to use a scripting language or a database, your hosting provider must have the appropriate software installed. Check with your provider before you dive in!

### **Guestbooks/Message Boards/Blogs**

Top resources for scripting languages include

- ♪ ASP (www.asp.net)
- PERL (www.perl.com)
- CGI (<u>www.w3.org/CGI/</u>)

You can learn all about MySQL, the most popular web database software, at <a href="https://www.mysql.com">www.mysql.com</a>.

If you're interested in a message board, try

- ♪ Invision Power Board (<u>www.invisionboard.com</u>)
- phpBB (<u>www.phpbb.com</u>)

  phpBB (www.phpbb.com)

  phpBB (www.phpb

While these are primarily PHP/MySQL-based sites, others exist that are ASP-, or even CGI-based. Try a Google search on "Forum software".

Being able to interact with your site's visitors may be the catch that brings them back again and again.

One way to do this is with a guestbook, which typically combines a feedback form with a page displaying all previously submitted feedback. The advantage is that it's easily implemented; however there are several drawbacks. Guestbooks aren't entirely "interactive," since all feedback from every user is stored together. Second, and most importantly, since guestbooks are typically open to anyone, they tend to attract a lot of spam. For this reason, they've mostly fallen into disuse.

For a truly interactive approach, consider a message board. There are many popular message-board software packages available, and most are free to download and easy to set up. The primary advantage of a message board is the ability to separate discussion into forums and topics. This is great for sites that delve into a lot of different topics, but can make your site look somewhat sparse if discussion is more limited. The major disadvantage of message boards is the need, in most cases, for users to register before they can contribute. Registration cuts down on spam but may discourage some users from participating.

For single-subject discussion or sharing your ideas, consider a blog. MySpace, LiveJournal, and Xanga are popular sites, but there are several products available for hosting a blog on your own site. Some third-party programs include Nucleus (<a href="https://www.nucleusscms.org">www.nucleusscms.org</a>), Greymatter (<a href="https://www.nucleusscms.org">www.nucleusscms.org</a>), Greymatter (<a href="https://www.nucleusscms.org">www.nucleusscms.org</a>), and BBlog (<a href="https://www.bblog.com">www.bblog.com</a>).

#### Calendars

Another way to add dynamic content, especially for organizations, is an online calendar. The calendar can list events sponsored by your organization, member's birthdays, meeting dates, historical events, and the like. Calendar software can be stand-alone or a plug-in module within other software, such as a message board.

### Web-Based Chat

For ultimate interactivity, consider a web-based chat room. Web chat is accessible to everyone (users don't have to use a particular IM program, for instance) and can be a great place for online meetings, answering questions, and the like. The primary disadvantages involve having to man the chat room for public sites or properly securing the site for private chat (such as for online meetings). The best chat software I've found is FlashChat, available at <a href="https://www.tufat.com">www.tufat.com</a>.

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# National President Report

By Phillip G. Staten

At 24, I really shouldn't be saying this, but I can't believe how fast the time has gone by this year. It feels like summer was just last week, though that might be because we had a warm spell here in Roanoke (as I write this in November) when the temperature got up to about 78. Still, the weather is decidedly cooler, and that trend will only continue. But alas, you didn't elect me to give a weather report, so how about some business?

After reviewing some quarterly progress reports and speaking with most of my fellow National Officers, it seems that our old nemesis—communication—is still roaming the plains of uncertainty. There have been missed deadlines for reports, lists, and articles, a fairly regular happening during the fall semester as new Chapter officers work to get a grasp of their jobs in the first few operating months. What this means, both at the Chapter and National level, is that we still aren't learning from ourselves yet.

Some Chapters have or had officer notebooks, detailing the respective positions, listing important contacts, highlighting particularly relevant by-laws or policies, and even including letters drafted from one office holder to the next. These are fantastic efforts and we can all take a lesson from them. While our National Officers, myself included, possess some form of these notebooks, be they reference manuals, bins and boxes of materials, or just the policies available on the intranet, they are widely varied in form and content. This is to be expected as the duties of each office follow a similar pattern. However, as I said before you three years ago, "We can do better."

I'm going to ask our National Officers to look at their manuals and officer possessions over the break and figure out what they do and don't need. What they don't need, perhaps another officer can use. What they do need, we'll work to provide it. Lastly, I'm going to request that all officers draft a simple letter to their successors, talking about problems, accomplishments, unwritten expectations, suggestions for the future, and a guide to what's currently on the officer's agenda.

The other side of our educational coin is Convention. This upcoming one will be different from any in recent memory. In the next few months, I'll be working with the National Officers, Committee Chairs, and the AA Convention Committee to create a hybrid Convention—one that will allow us to conduct all the business we're used to but that will free up time so we can enjoy the company of our Brothers in a fun and meaningful way. We'll be changing the Friday schedule to allow time for more bonding opportunities and learning sessions. All of

the National Committees will still meet, the Alumni Association will still meet and host its reception, but we're going to try a new method of integrating training and idea sharing into the weekend. We'll also be hosting an open house for National Office candidates to allow them to talk informally with their Brothers, without the formal constraints of the Legislative Council, about their ideas for the office. We have yet the ability to learn from ourselves, if we'd but let it happen.

We enter a new world in January. It will be challenging, at times confusing. We'll continue to ask our questions and sing our songs. But we already possess the means to overcome our challenges, conquer our confusion, answer our questions, and sing more loudly, proudly, the refrains we learned so long, yet not so long, ago.

May Brotherhood Prevail! 4

### **National Secretary Report**

By Nathaniel Kulyk Greetings!

Well, autumn has come to Washington, D.C. Despite the general downward shift in the temperature, there have been some absolutely lovely days in the past few weeks. There have been some rainstorms but thankfully no snow as of yet.

There isn't a whole lot for me to report on for this edition of *The Clef*. As always, I'm grateful to the Chapters for being so prompt with their submissions, and I hope to see this continue in the spring. I've been attending all of the online National meetings, to record and forward transcripts to the committee chairs, and working to keep my records up to date. I plan to burn a CD-Rom of them for the National Historian at the end of the year. I've also slowly been making progress with the National Secretary's Notebook and have helped with the Chapter Maintenance Wiki. Regrettably, I've been unable to visit any of the Chapters this semester, although I made a point of chatting with many Brothers by phone and online.

There have also been some important developments in my life outside the Fraternity. I'm pleased to report that I successfully completed my Master's Degree in August and I am now currently working as a staff assistant at The Heritage Foundation. My work is on a temporary basis, although I'm hopeful that it will give

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# National Vice President of Chapter Maintenance Report

By Chrissy Bischoff

With fall semester in full swing, I've been busier than ever with Chapter Maintenance work. At the end of the summer, I completed an NVPCM handbook to facilitate the transition and upkeep of this office for many years to come. Other office-related duties included expanding the CM website (<a href="www.mubetapsi.org/maintenance">www.mubetapsi.org/maintenance</a>) and also my personal officer files. Nathaniel Kulyk and I posted the academic calendars for each Chapter on the Brother's intranet calendar so Brothers can easily track activities at other Chapters.

The start of the school year brought the disappointing news of the termination of Xi Chapter (see page 3 for more details) but also new energy as our collegiate Chapters headed back to school. The NCCM has been meeting monthly to discuss various common maintenance problems, answer specific Chapter questions, and work on completing the Chapter Maintenance Handbook. As of mid-November, all Chapters except Omicron had successfully submitted the last of their articles for the handbook. I'd still highly value input from Brothers, especially National and Chapter officers. You can speak with me about getting involved, or toss your own two cents in via the CM Handbook wiki, which can be found on the CM website. The handbook should be ready for distribution by Convention 2007.

Phillip Staten and I have been hosting Chapter roundtables as per the most recent addition to the NEC policy, and so far I or we have met with each collegiate Chapter that has chosen to participate. On November 10-12, I had the great pleasure of visiting Zeta Chapter. I had a wonderful time meeting and re-connecting with our Brothers to the North, and I would gladly bear the cold any time for such a warm reception! The Zeta Brothers gave me a much-needed dose of fun and Brotherhood and have inspired me to continue my duties as NVPCM with style.  $\mathcal{A}$ 

# Wonder who's on break or in exams? Find out online!

intranet.mubetapsi.org/calendar.php

## National Vice President of Expansion Report

By Sarah Morrison

This semester was off to a very rocky start for expansion. I've attempted to hold one meeting; only Zeta and Alumni sent representation. However, it was a very good discussion, and information sessions were authorized for Saginaw Valley State University in Michigan. So far those haven't had the response we would like, but I'm thrilled to see Brothers taking an initiative at schools they're attending or live near. I feel these sorts of initiatives are the most likely to bear fruit, and I'm excited as we look at schools near Brothers. All ideas and suggestions are welcome and should be emailed to me or your Chapter representative.

### National Treasurer Report

By Abra Seelig Hello Brothers!

I hope everything is going well for all of you. Things have been good, but very stressful, on my end.

Currently, National has \$25,427.79 in checking and savings, and approximately \$10,665 in investments.

Most of the work that the National Finance Committee does at the Convention meeting can just as easily take place at the pre-Convention online meeting. With this in mind, are there any financial or accounting topics or tutorials that would help your Chapter (and other Chapters) run more smoothly? I feel that this would be a great use of our "face time" at Convention. I could either create a presentation or moderate a discussion on a certain topic. Let me know if you have any ideas.

Unfortunately, I haven't made much progress on the NFC/National Treasurer goals set at Convention 2006. If anybody (on the NFC or not) would like to assist with any of the goals, let me know.

I've put off buying accounting software for the Fraternity indefinitely. The main reason that I remember for purchasing the software was to assist in our application for Tax Exempt status. Since I've found no definition that fits us well (other than the one from which we're specifically excluded), I find it hard to justify \$500 software for something that I see us having only an outside chance of getting. Please feel free to get in touch with me if your opinion differs.

Please see Treasurer Report on page 13

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### National Historian Report

By Shari Baxter

As usual, there's nothing very exciting to report from the National Historian. A new History and Archives website is being created and will hopefully be active by Convention 2007. A Handbook for Chapter Historians is also in the works with a hopeful publication date of fall 2007.

A few reminders for Chapters and National Officers: December 31<sup>st</sup> is the final submission date for financial documents, correspondence, and other documentation. Please refer to the NHAC Policy for specifics regarding what to submit. \$\mathcal{F}\$

# National Editor of The Clef Report

By Andrea M. Zander

What you hold in your hands or are reading online is the best representation of what I've been up to as NEOTC this year. With this issue, I fulfill my policy obligation to produce two issues of *The Clef* during my term, but I'm already planning out the next issue for spring 2007. I'm doing this for a variety of reasons, not the least of which is continuity within this office and momentum for this publication. I haven't decided yet whether I'll run for NEOTC at Convention 2007, but I feel part of my duty is to leave the next editor—be it myself or someone else—with a leg up. Also to that end, once this issue is released into the wild, I'll be turning my attention to a handbook and style guide for the newsletter. I hope to have that completed, at least in draft form, in time for Convention.

Part of my debate about running has to do with the time constraints inherent in raising a clever 15-month-old. Olivia is my top priority, but I do enjoy having *The Clef* as a project "outside of work," as it were. On this subject, it's mostly a matter of finding a balance for my family and me. So far that's been able to include being NEOTC, although not quite precisely to my liking. For instance, I wanted this issue to go out before everyone disappeared for the holiday break, but that's just not going to happen.

I'm also looking for more Brother feedback on how I'm doing as NEOTC. I'm kind of notorious for self-doubt, so it's difficult for me to judge my progress unless I hear from people (thank you, those who have already spoken up!). This includes negatives, by the way. Not that all I want to hear is what you don't like, but if this is to be the best possible *Clef*, it'll take constructive criticism far more than praise to accomplish.

I want to thank everyone who contributed to this issue, especially those who went beyond what's required and submitted something outside the usual reporting. I could work like crazy as NEOTC and still not get anywhere if it weren't for everyone who offered up a little time and energy to make this issue better than the last. I hope that can continue to be the case—that anyone in this position will always be able to say that the newsletter improves each time a new issue comes along.

For now, enjoy the product of your labors—and start thinking of what should be in the next issue. Cheers! 5

# National Information Technology Committee Report

By Kevin Britton

Nigerian credit card scammers are not your friend.

In September, I received an email from a watchdog group that scans the web for phishing scams, among other things. The group detected a folder on <a href="mubetapsi.org">mubetapsi.org</a> that contained a phishing scam targeting a major credit card retailer.

For the unfamiliar, phishing is the act of directing someone to a look-alike website that captures personal data and secretly sends it to a third party, usually by email. Most phishing scams originate by email, where the scammers get the recipient to click on a link to "verify account information." In this case, there were TWO scams (the second targeting an international bank). The investigation revealed that the hackers, which used two Nigerian ISPs, obtained our username and password and used them to upload the scams to the server. It was further found that a flaw in our chat room was to blame for the security lapse.

Rest assured we're once again secure. The hole is patched, account passwords are changed, and new backups have been taken of all of our electronic "possessions." However, the damage is done. Someone broke into our house, and as the protector of the house, I can't help but feel violated. I know I won't ever feel quite as safe again. I imagine it's a similar feeling to that felt by the people who fall prey to similar phishing scams, who discover (sometimes well after the fact) that their identities have been stolen, and, in many cases, their credit ruined. The FTC estimates that more than 9 million Americans EACH YEAR experience some form of

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# National Service Ad-Hoc Committee Report

By Crystal Campbell

NEOTC note: This report is paraphrased from NEC meeting minutes from November 29, 2006.

Three Chapters held their projects to raise money for VH1's Save the Music Foundation. It looks like we've surpassed our goal of \$1,000 for the entire project, and I'm designing a new final report regarding the success of this project.



October 2006 in Houghton with Zeta: (top, left to right) Brothers Andy Stephens, Dave Klemens, Shawna Welsh, Michael Senkow, (bottom, left to right) Zeta Alum Patty Sly, Zeta President Sandy Orlowski, John Ward, Brothers Lian Tarhay, Andy Spina, and Zeta Alums Matt and Andrea Zander with their daughter Olivia.

### Alpha Chapter Report

By Kristen Clyburn, Alpha MAL

Seasons' greetings to everyone! Boy has this semester flown by with the start of a new school year heading straight towards Christmas break and 2007! Alpha has been busy throughout this semester with our service projects, scholarship fundraising, and, of course, service to the NC State Music Department. We've had many ups and downs this semester, as all Chapters can experience, but Alpha Chapter has really shined through them all. At the beginning of the semester, we unfortunately lost our advising team due to transfers within the school, leaving the school, and lack of time for support. With quick thinking and offers of interest from the faculty, we obtained a new advisor, Dr. Fuller, who has really experienced our service and support for the marching band while he was head director the past few years.

Alpha began this semester by finalizing steps for our National Service Project, the concert we planned and acquired space for last semester. We hosted the annual Unity Concert, which brings together all seven a cappella groups on NC State's campus for one huge night of great music. We had a great turnout and all the a cappella groups supported us by donating CDs to sell, the profits of which were added to our donation to VH1's Save the Music Foundation. Alpha was able to raise more than \$1,000 at this event, and we plan on undertaking the Unity Concert regularly every fall semester.

Just a couple of weeks after the success of the Unity Concert, we also planned and hosted DragFEST 2006 with the support and wonderful skills of Ms. Nellie Bottoms, one of the premiere Drag Queens in the Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill area. She and her lovely co-host got the

## Zeta Chapter Report

By Bryan Sebeck, Zeta MAL

Things are busy as usual up in the great white north. Last spring, Zeta Chapter initiated our fourth pledge class in three semesters, Over Blown, when Dirk L.C. Kahl, Alex Johnson, Patty Sly, and Brad Champagne were welcomed into the Brotherhood.

This fall has been packed with activities, too. We revived and organized Excursions in Sound, formerly a simple talent show put on by the Brotherhood, to be a two-night talent show and battle of the bands to benefit VH1's Save the Music Foundation. This year, Zeta teamed up with our campus radio station, WMTU, with donations from many local businesses, to raise almost \$500 for the cause.

In addition to initiating this fall's pledge class of Mike Maksimchuk, Shawna Ivancic, Melissa Jones, and Haley Vingsness, we brought a new Honorary Brother, Susan Sullivan, into the Brotherhood. Susan is a House Manager at the Rosza Center and is in charge of coordinating volunteer ushers for performances.

Coming up next semester, Winter Carnival will be taking a lot of our time. This year, we've made the decision to move from our usual one-night statue to the prestigious month-long statue competition. Lian Tarhay has been named a finalist for the Queens Competition, and, for the first time in years, Zeta Chapter has been accepted into the State Revue Competition. This, along with the potential for another pledge class, is sure to keep the Brotherhood busy.

Please see Alpha Report on page 13

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### Mu Chapter Report

By Chris Faulkenberry, Mu MAL

This semester, like many before it, has been a difficult one for Mu Chapter. We have lost active Brothers to stress and full schedules, and while we look forward to the return of many of them in the spring, their inactivity dampened the spirits of the rest of us. However, the most obvious difficulty experienced this semester was a lack of a pledge season. Our sole pledge decided to postpone pledging because of an overfull schedule, too.

However, the Brothers who remained active have come together and worked hard on service and fundraising. Gift wrapping at Barnes & Noble was immensely successful for the second year in a row, bringing in much-needed funds, and we were able to help most of the a cappella groups on campus put on their shows through our service as ushers. We made a foray into the drama department as well, serving as ushers for the stage performance of Pink Floyd's *The Wall*.

Though the semester was difficult, we came out of it a re-forged and re-energized Brotherhood. We look forward to the return to activity of those Brothers who were overwhelmed by the stress, because it happens to the best of us, and to the initiation of new Brothers in the spring. We will keep our spirit of service and continue to work as we have, and we will grow closer still to one another in Brotherhood.





(Clockwise from the left) Mu Brothers JC Peterson and Mary Buchanan, former Pledge Eleanor Hanna, and Mu Brothers Chris Faulkenberry, Stephen Smith, Travis Kephart, Kat Hurwitz, Josh Moffitt, Heather Craft, and Anna Kaplan.

### Nu Chapter Report

By Jennifer McCarthy, Nu MAL

Nu Chapter membership has greatly increased this semester with the return of a Brother who has been on sick leave and the initiation of the eight-member Alpha Alpha pledge class. We're now up to 29 active Brothers here in Oswego. Along with the new Actives, we'll be welcoming an Honorary Brother, Elizabeth LaManna, into the ranks of Brotherhood within the next few weeks.

On top of pledging, this semester we've been busy with many other Fraternity aspects. We've been considering some new fundraising ideas and hope to see some of them through next semester. We've been working on Brotherhood bonding with apple picking, pie baking, sleepovers, potluck dinners, and attending hockey games together. As a Chapter, we also brought back our Mu Beta Psi broomball team with a full roster. Harmony on Ice, as we're now called, did well in the fall

Please see Nu Report on page 13

The Clef Page II

### **Omicron Chapter Report**

By Lauren Taylor, Omicron MAL

Greetings to everyone of Mu Beta Psi! Omicron Chapter has had a decent year so far. Our numbers are down to seven active Brothers, but are spirits are high and we are having lots of fun this semester. We were hoping to have a productive rush season this year to bolster our numbers, but, while we started off with six pledges, the number has dropped to two. They've been doing very well and even helped us out this year with our Annual Haunted House.

On that note, Omicron Chapter continued our tradition of hosting the Haunted House on campus this year. It ran Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, and we had a pretty good turnout. The theme for this year was "Twisted Fairytales: Not So Happy Endings." While not the most thoroughly scary haunted house ever, it was described as being quite entertaining. All money that we raised during the event will be going to VH1's Save the Music Foundation.

Other than the Haunted the Brothers of House, Omicron Chapter have been helping out with the campus musical ensembles, Music at Noon showcases on Tuesday throughout semester, and other things. the afternoon December 3, four Brothers were able to attend the Roanoke College Choir's annual "Lessons and Carols," during which the Brothers sold CDs, ushered, and handed out programs. CD sales raised \$1,150 for the choir. Community turnout for the event was much higher than in past years, and the event was a huge success.





On the fun front, the Chapter attended the showing of "Sweeney Todd" at the local community theatre, Showtimers, as a group. Brothers have also been going in groups to other performances in the area, such as the opera *La Boheme*, which showed November 18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>.

As for next semester, we've already begun planning for our second "Battle of the Bands" competition, to be held in late March 2007. A committee has been formed and we've already started looking for bands, setting up advertising, and gathering prizes. We're hoping for an exciting time next semester and looking forward to having some fun and helping our community get more involved in arts and music. \$\mathcal{I}\$

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## **Alumni Association Report**

By Ryan Hauck, AA MAL

Our membership currently stands at 33 Brothers, and we hope to grow in strength as the year moves along. The Alumni Association has been pretty active the past few months with a handful of projects, which we'd like to tell you a little bit about.

Mid-Year 2006 was held in Charleston, W.V. Although turnout was light, the Chapter was able to address a lot of business. Much fun and socializing was had by all in attendance; new officers were elected and chair-Brothers appointed; and strategies for the next several months were laid out.

The Chapter has begun steps to reorganize ourselves to attract more Alumni to our numbers. Surveys have been distributed by the Alumni Association Reorganization Project (AARP) Committee to a large base of Alumni. The survey's intent is to gauge our Alumni's opinions about the Fraternity and their willingness to get involved again—and to what extent. We're hoping to bring many Alumni, recent and non-recent, back into the fold in whatever fashion they feel comfortable.

Our "Gathering" Committee, which has traditionally existed to plan Mid-Year and Convention events, has started an experiment this year by inviting Alumni to meet in geographical "clusters" for social gatherings. The first such attempt was undertaken recently when Alumni got together to watch an NFL game. The committee hopes to continue holding such events in the interest of keeping Alumni engaged and enthusiastic throughout the year.

This semester, the Alumni Association also took a step towards charitable causes. Project Opera of Manhattan approached us about sponsorship opportunities, and the Chapter decided to help out by donating \$200 to the organization. In turn, they'll be placing Mu Beta Psi on their website (<a href="www.projectopera.org">www.projectopera.org</a>) and in their event programs. Take a look at their website for information about the group—if you look closely enough you'll see a couple familiar names.

Convention 2007 is just around the corner (March 9-10) and your Convention Committee has been working feverishly to get everything ready. The AA wants to make this a Convention to remember, so we're planning some "unconventional" activities that we hope everyone will enjoy. We don't want to give away anything too early, but details will be released as Convention gets nearer. Keep an eye on the Convention website (convention.mubetapsi.org) for information. Also, by now all Chapters, Officers, and PBOTs should have received a registration form; please remember that registrations are due by February 1, 2007. Special note to active Alumni: Please remember that the

Alumni Association will be having its meeting on THURSDAY EVENING before Convention (March 8), not Friday morning! There will be a lot to discuss, rehearse, and execute at this meeting, so please make every possible attempt to attend. This is your Convention, and we need your help to pull it off.

Remember that nominations for the Kutschinski Outstanding Chapter and Daniel Brother of the Year awards are due in to the AA Secretary no later than 31 January. We encourage everyone to think about making nominations. Electronic submissions are accepted, given certain requirements. Please contact Alana Kirby (AA President) or Ryan Hauck (AA Secretary) with questions about either of these awards. Remember that the Daniel Award guidelines were completely overhauled this year to make the award both more attractive and easier to make nominations for.

Our Chapter wishes to stress to the Fraternity the importance of helping us keep accurate Alumni records. Twice a year we solicit the collegiate Chapters for information about their recent initiates and graduates; once a year we request information about any Alumni who have provided updates. Historically the return rate on these requests has been very low. The AA is asking you to please be diligent about submitting this sort of information, as it's often the only way we can keep up with our graduating Brothers. Remember, eventually your name will be the one someone submits, and we'd hate to lose track of you because someone forgot to send in an address change!

The current 33 active members span more than 40 years of Fraternity history. As always, we welcome interested Brothers to help us in service to Mu Beta Psi. For information on joining, contact any officer or visit our website (<a href="https://www.mubetapsi.org/alumni">www.mubetapsi.org/alumni</a>).

May Brotherhood Prevail! 5

For Convention 2007 questions, contact Ryan Hauck (<a href="mailto:ryan.hauck@yahoo.com">ryan.hauck@yahoo.com</a>).

For information on the AA initiative to attract more members, please contact the AA Reorganization Project (AARP) Committee Chair, Alice Gerhardt (amgerhar@pasty.net).

#### Secretary Report from page 6

way to job opportunities that are more permanent in nature. I really enjoy the work I'm doing, and I'm pleased to say that it hasn't prevented me from performing my responsibilities for this office.

Finally, I want to conclude this report with recognition of Xi Chapter, which was the Chapter that I called home for over three years. Since its founding in 1996, Xi Chapter has contributed greatly to the Fraternity and has shared the joys of music to the communities of both Saint Vincent College and Latrobe, Pennsylvania. Xi has been a significant part of my life, which has brought me to where I am today. I thank God for the experiences I had at Xi Chapter, the friendships that I made at Xi that will last a lifetime, and the memories that will last forever.

I wish everyone the best of luck with the remainder of their semesters! 🞜

#### Treasurer Report on page 7

Finally, I'd like to apologize for any delays in orders or responses over the last couple months. Planning a wedding on top of all the other things that I'm involved with has become an exercise in stress management and organization. My wedding is December 29<sup>th</sup>, and I foresee more free time to devote to Mu Beta Psi come the middle of January. Until then, please feel free to get in touch with me (multiple times if you wish) if you feel there's anything that may have slipped my mind (there will be things!). I'll be partially available December 22<sup>nd</sup>-December 27<sup>th</sup>. I'll be completely unavailable December 28<sup>th</sup>-January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

#### Alpha Report from page 9

crowd excited and ready for the presentation of our drag queen/king hopefuls as they went through several routines for judging and crowd support. By the end of the show, we had crowned our very talented DragFEST 2006 Drag Queen and raised money for our Music Scholarship.

Alpha Chapter had success in serving the Music Department with setups and strikes this semester with the help of our shiny new pledge class, the Teenage Mutant Ninja Alphas. Nine dropped to six mid-way through the season, but we're pleased to have such a wonderful group of pledges, who are excited about being in Alpha Chapter to provide service to the Music Department, NC State's Campus, and the community.

We at Alpha Chapter want to wish everyone a warm and wonderful holiday season this year! Hopefully we'll get some snow of our own to enjoy ... unless the Zetas want to hog it all! \$\mathcal{I}\$

#### Nu Report from page 10

season of the intramural sport. We hope to have at least one, maybe even two, teams playing next semester.

Our Chapter has been working hard at serving our campus music department, ushering a lot of concerts and working to help out as much as we can. We recently were able to turn service into a fundraising opportunity when we were asked to do a coat check and sell refreshments during the intermission of the Oswego Opera production of Traviata. All proceeds went to the Fraternity. Our most exciting concert to help at with this semester is in November. You may remember from previous reports that some Nu Brothers helped at an a cappella summit last year, which gave the Chapter the position of CASA ambassadors. In November, Blue Jupiter, an a cappella group managed by Nu Chapter Alum Diana Priesler, is coming to Oswego, and we'll not only be helping out with the band and ushering but also sitting at a table with information about Mu Beta Psi and CASA. We're looking forward to this exciting opportunity to share about the Fraternity.

We're also excited to have Phillip Staten here in Oswego to help us with our work on the concert. Our newest Brothers are very excited to meet him so that he's no longer just a memorized name.

### Important Email Safety Tip

Legitimate email from <a href="webmaster@mubetapsi.org">webmaster@mubetapsi.org</a> may ask for your name, Chapter, Pledge Class information, or desired username.

Counterfeit email might ask for passwords, Social Security Numbers, or confidential financial information.

If you feel you're being asked for inappropriate information, do not reply to the requesting email. Instead, contact webmaster Kevin Britton (webmaster@mubetapsi.org), National President Phillip Staten (president@mubetapsi.org), or Board Chairman Benjamin Griffeth (ben@mubetapsi.org) directly for verification.

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#### Conventions from page 1

The official pledge pin, consisting of "red enamel in the shape of the field on the present jeweled pin" was also accepted. The official lapel pin currently used was approved in 1968.

Discussion at Convention 1971 focused on the progress of Epsilon and the establishment of Eta Chapter. Also discussed was the incorporation of women into Delta Chapter through Psi Mu Psi.

The situation at Eta Chapter, Virginia Military Institute, was discussed in 1972:

It seems that all of Eta's members had graduated without holding a spring initiation, and the officers had taken all fraternity materials with them. Professor Robert Stewart of Epsilon different reported that faculty members at VMI had different ideas on what Eta Chapter's functions should be, and each would only give support if the chapter conformed to his ideas. Originally Mu Beta Psi had been informed that the Timmins Society, a local music club, was going to become Eta Chapter. However, this had not happened, and apparently each group had gone its own way after the alleged conversions of Timmins into Eta. After further discussion it was decided that Epsilon Chapter, due to close physical proximity, would be the only hope for re-activating Eta and that the matter would be left in their hands.

Unfortunately, Eta Chapter didn't recover.

Conventions continued, and the Fraternity grew into what we know today. Starting as social gatherings in S & W Cafeteria, we've grown from a strictly honorary society to the service group we are today. This year, Convention 2007 will be held at Clemson University. Though Delta Chapter is no longer with us, we'll once again return to the place where inter-Chapter socialization began and the national organization was formed. \$\mathcal{P}\$

#### NITC Report from page 8

identity theft. In addition to credit card and banking fraud, identity thieves may obtain government documents such as ID, or fraudulently obtain expensive medical treatment, among other abuses.

How can you prevent identity theft? First, never reveal your personal information, especially your Social Security Number, because of an email or unsolicited phone call. If possible, always type a merchant's URL into your browser rather than following a link, especially one in an email. Use antivirus software, especially one that can detect malware (spyware and adware) installation. Keep passwords and other login data stored securely (not on your computer), and avoid sharing this information over a cell phone.

Away from the computer, shred documents that contain account numbers and other personal information, rather than discarding them directly into the trash. When making a credit card transaction in person, make sure you can see your credit card throughout the entire transaction, and question any unusual activity (such as swiping the card through multiple machines). Read over your statements at least monthly (and more often if you have reason to be suspicious) to be sure no unauthorized charges appear. If you lose your card, contact the credit card company immediately to cancel the card. In many cases, you will not be held responsible for unauthorized charges if you report the loss in a timely fashion. Be safe; and happy surfing!

### **Technology to Consider**

Everything you post online about Mu Beta Psi, positive or negative—be it on a blog, photo album, message board, online profile, or website—becomes a permanent part of our public persona, searchable by anyone who wants to learn about us. What image do you want to project? Are we noteworthy, having fun and accomplishing great good in pursuit of music and fraternity? Or are we meanspirited, backstabbing, drunken, off-color, bigoted jerks? The fact is, both views of Mu Beta Psi exist on the web ... and the fuel for both viewpoints comes from Brothers. One view builds us up and helps us accomplish our mission. The other destroys us. Which do YOU choose?

#### Wondering from page 5

In the end, the goal is to get visitors to return to your site. Whether you use dynamic content, interactive features, or just regularly update your content, keep your users in mind for success!

Next issue we'll wrap up "World Wide Wondering" with a look at password-protected areas.  ${\cal F}$ 

### Welcome, New Brothers!

#### Alpha

Siarra Dickey Logann Graham Jess Hudson Chris Kendall Katelyn Smith Brian Yarborough

#### Zeta

Shawna Ivancic Melissa "Mel" Jones Mike Maksimchuk Susan Sullivan (Honorary) Haley Vingsness

#### Nu

Amy "Pegaasus" Andres
Kristin "Brigid" Benoodt
Jenny "P Buttercup" Camenga
Julie "Surely T²" Lillibridge
Gina "Scraps" Mazzoli
Jessica "A.T.W. Mae" Montgomery
Megan "Elmo" Myerov
Zac "ÓÔÅĒË" Parchomenko

#### Omicron

Kristin Lawrence Jessica Thomas

#### Lyricist

Help giving dirty looks

#### Banjo

Jo is no longer welcome

#### Viola

Spanish greeting from Vi

#### Castanets

What the fisherman does

#### Bassoon

What the fisherman hopes for

#### Conductor

Show her the way

#### **Trumpet**

"The Don's" favorite Apprentice

QVBXZDIVBS YXJGVK W B W Y B X P J O P C M U V F K N G U M F Q S Y A Q Z I T N T Y D I X H S Z Y U MAWNGNTRWJFUXKJEWAMJ X S A K J P S U V R I X G A R I B V G B PCFIWOVCASOAMVSNELPY CFISPNITUWKWIUXLTSAN V R X V R I E L Q G D C I L S U A J H W OWDSLRMMETEGJRSIMHZB IOSTNJMNTDXKWVIVCN AHCINRBCWITHINVSJYVJ G L T S N O I T A I T I N I N O C T D A RYSPLHNHWSKPDBPWVRGJ DOOHREHTORBUFMIYNRSI A O C L M O U G I X O H M E H Z N B N H MLDCYDHRMLETTERSMNBW X S W E N D B J J K V Z D H O Z M F O X B M C K S W Q C Y R F U W C A L R J W P IZQMQPLEDGEMMYSZHGAO CSQSCIKCYMWQWHFRZPLU

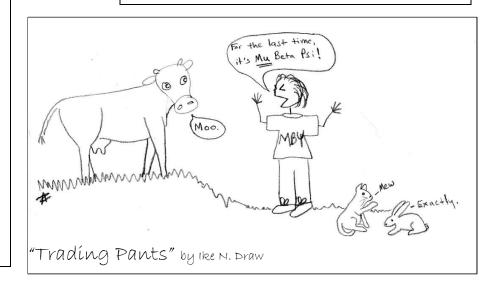
#### Words to find:

Beta Mu
Brotherhood Music
Fraternity Pledge
Initiations Psi
Letters Service

### Lyric Challenge

The first person to email (<u>clef@mubetapsi.org</u>) with the correct musical artist and song title for the following lyrics will get their name in print in the next issue of *The Clef*.

"The wind in the wires made a tattletale sound as the waves turned the minutes to hours."



"The best music ... is essentially there to provide you with something to face the world with."

—Bruce Springsteen



### Wanted: Writers and Ideas

2007 marks Zeta Chapter's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, as well as the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Tri-Beta. On top of that, Zeta Chapter Advisor Joe Kirkish celebrates 50 years of involvement with Tri-Beta/Psi. The spring 2007 issue of *The Clef* will therefore have a dual focus: the Zeta-related anniversaries and a recap of Convention 2007.

To this end, I need some volunteers and some ideas. Please email me at clef@mubetapsi.org if you want to:

- Interview Joe Kirkish about his relationship with Zeta
- Contribute photos from any Fraternity activities (please identify everyone in the photos)
- Write an "In Brief" article about the harp, pipes, or lyre (see page 2, "In Brief ... the Horn")
- Write about your Convention experience
- Submit any other articles or article ideas

If you want to write but are stumped for a topic, drop me a line and I'll get you set up.

This publication is what you make it. I appreciate all the support I've received in putting this issue together and I look forward to the next issue. I



National Editor of The Clef 622 Northern Heights Dr. NE Rochester, MN 55906

