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Culture Vulture Joe Kirkish: Inspiring Teacher and Advisor

Interview/information by Sandy Orlowski, Zeta Chapter

Written by Megan Roble, NEOTC

Special thanks also to Rob Smith, Zeta Chapter

Joe Kirkish is a fascinating man. He's the type of person you can chat with for hours and not even begin to touch on all the stories and life experiences that make him who he is. Advisor to Tri-Beta/Mu Beta Psi on Michigan Tech's campus for fifty years this spring, he brings all of his personal experience and charm to his work with Brothers.

Joe, originally from the Houghton, Michigan area, was drafted into the military in 1945, just after World War II ended. At a time when the nation's atmosphere was "really just about fun," he enjoyed traveling to places such as Texas and San Francisco (although he usually didn't end up in the same place as his records) to receive training, dig ditches, meet girls, and perform a job with the military's financial records. "It seems like the military and I never belonged," he says. However, he feels like his time in it "was a darn good experience" despite creating a financial mess each month at work!

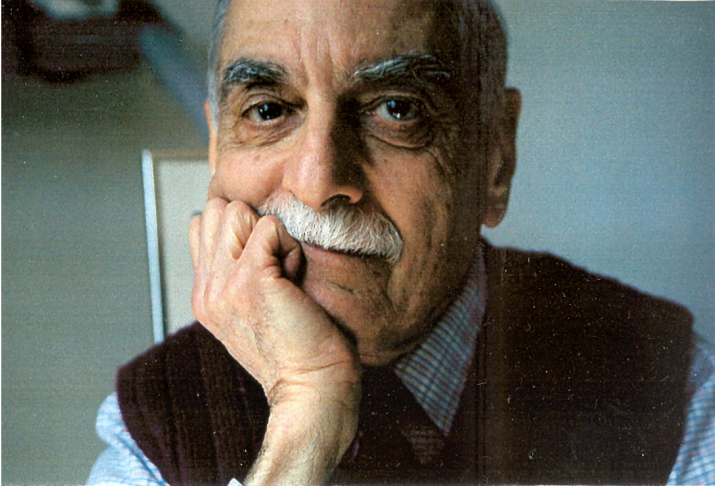
After serving in the military, Joe received his free military college education from Ferris Institute (now Ferris University) where he discovered theater. At Ferris, he won a national contest for writing a play, and thanks to two German teachers, received a scholarship to White Horse Beach in Massachusetts, a summer theater program with professionals as the performers. While there, he met budding actors from all over the country, received lessons in stage production, and wrote a musical. After this experience, he decided not to continue studying business and changed his life course. At Central Theater, he continued to write musicals, *The Seven Lively Arts* being one of his favorites. It was dubbed by the school's president as "the best frat frolics we ever had here." Joe, however, admits to cheating a

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Announcements & Reminders

- ♫ Mid-Year will be held July 21-22, 2007, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- ♫ April 30 is a big deadline date! Initiation Reports, Chapter Maintenance Reports, Pledging Reports, summer address lists, spring graduate lists, and changes to By-Laws and Informal Initiation rites are all due. See the National Secretary Report (page 14) for details.
- ♫ Subscriptions to the national listserv are now self-service. To subscribe or unsubscribe, log on to the Intranet and click on "Control Panel/Options," then "Edit Profile." Under "Contact Info," check (or uncheck) the box next to "Subscribe to mbpsi" to manage your subscription.



Joe Kirkish assists not only with Mu Beta Psi, but in many ways in his community. "If I am not helping, I don't feel good," he says.

Kirkish from page 1

bit: "We started passing a rumor around that there was going to be something...censored in the show because it was the kind of thing the school wouldn't want." After Central, he received an assistantship to the University of Wisconsin where he worked at the Idea Theater, a job that helped him decide that he wanted to teach.

Besides theater, Joe also excels at photography. He lived for three years in New York, where he took almost "any job with pleasure," such as taking composite photographs for performers and photographing album covers. "If you know someone and have got a certain talent, you can make it," he says. While there, he also began working on a novel based on his experiences in the military and was invited to write scripts for a television/radio show about a real secret society. Unfortunately, the television project fell through after the FBI got involved, warning the producers to not meddle with the society. Because of Joe's love and appreciation for the arts, media, and travel, he became what he calls a "culture vulture."

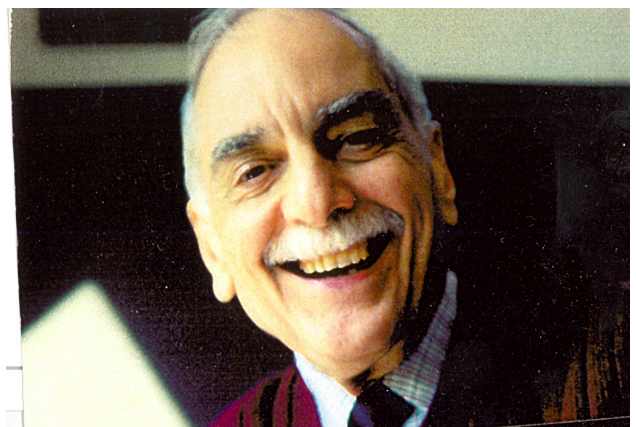
After New York, Joe moved back to Michigan for family reasons and eventually got a job teaching at Michigan Tech. While there, he worked on getting his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan; his dissertation was on the first years of National Public Radio. A huge advocate for the humanities at Tech, Joe started the first radio station on campus and fought for the school to offer classes in radio, film, photography, and the appreciation of related arts. He thought it would be nice for "students to use the other side of their brains."

Ever since he first saw the word "philanthropist" in the dictionary as a youngster, Joe has wanted to become one. Using the money he invested in the stock market under the guidance of a friend, he regularly aids the arts and humanities in Michigan. For example, he has donated money to struggling radio stations and is currently pushing to get a lift installed at the Club Indigo Theater to make it more accessible for visitors with physical limitations.

In 1957, a few years before Michigan Tech's music fraternity Tri-Beta converted to Mu Beta Psi, Joe was asked to become one of their advisors. His best recollections from these early years as an advisor are with the event Excursions in Sound. He also recalls the first time women were allowed to join, which he strongly supported, despite a strong opposition that the Fraternity should be for men only. "There is a definite difference between the way men and women think," he says, "in thinking and attitude and all the rest. I think it is great to have both involved in organizations." The year after the first three women were allowed in, Tri-Beta became Mu Beta Psi; they were looking for a national affiliation.

When asked about his role as Zeta's advisor, Joe explained that "an advisor should advise, not dictate." He especially loves to talk to people on a personal basis, with individuals rather than groups. "People like to talk to me," he says. "I guess I'm a good listener." Joe finds it especially interesting to see the personality and group dynamics of each generation of Brothers, and encourages them to be active in the community. He explained that advising the Chapter is like taking care of a car that you know needs to last for a very long time. "Every time you hear a sound, you tinker with it" to ensure it remains in good condition, he says. "It's the same way with Psi."

Joe's biggest goal for Mu Beta Psi is to see Brothers be as involved in the community as possible and to



maintain a very positive reputation. "Some fraternities get active in the communities for PR, but we do it for other reasons." Joe feels that Psi Brothers are different from members of more stereotypical fraternities and sororities, and he is proud of that fact. He wants the Brothers to "make a small dent" while involved with Psi, and for people on campus and in the community to know who Brothers are and respect the service they provide. "You can't be in it just for the fun," he says. Along with the fun comes service, responsibility, and dedication.

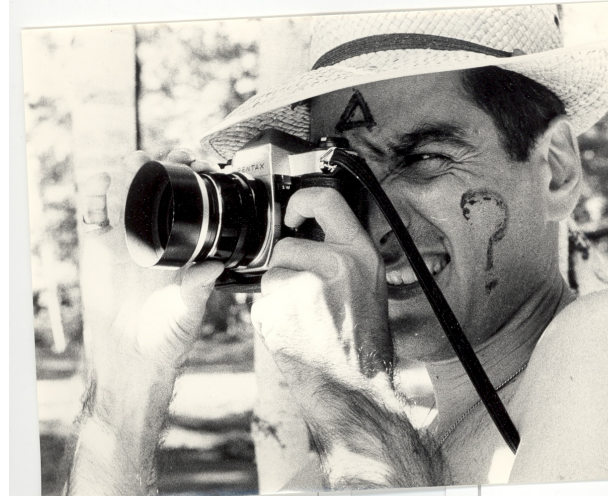
In addition, Joe loves to welcome students into his home, a house that has special meaning to him because it was willed to him by a professor who was like a father to him. His hospitality is clearly evidenced by the interview for this article, in which he fed interviewer Sandy Orlowski strawberry dessert, candy, and soup!

Mu Beta Psi has impacted Joe in a positive way. "It gave me a purpose, and I like purposes. If I am not helping, I don't feel good," he explains. Although Joe has been retired from Michigan Tech for about 20 years, he stays very active with students through such advising roles. Also, he loves to travel the world (Ireland is one of his favorites). He believes that keeping his mind and body active through community involvement and daily exercise prevents him from becoming like other retirees that just "slip into themselves" and fade away in their age.

Despite not establishing a family of his own, Joe feels he has had many children throughout his years of teaching and advising. He explains that he feels like Mr. Chips in the old movie *Goodbye, Mr. Chips*. When a friend comments "He's a great man; it's a pity he never had any children," Mr. Chips replies, "On the contrary. I have had a thousand children." 🎵



Zeta Chapter takes a well-earned relaxing dip!



Complementing his interests in theater and radio, Joe Kirkish also excels at photography.

2007: Year of the Zeta

By Katie Becker, Zeta Chapter

The year 2007 marks Zeta Chapter's 40th anniversary as a chapter of Mu Beta Psi. However, it also marks the 75th anniversary of its predecessor, Tri-Beta. Tri-Beta was founded April 14, 1932, by nine members of the Michigan Tech ROTC band and advisor Arthur Kitt. Over the years, Tri-Beta served to support and guide the band, as well as stimulate interest.

The group went through two phases of inactivity (1943-1946 and 1952-1956) as members were called to military service. The fraternity typically presented one of two annual talent shows: An Excursion In Sound or A Night of Music. In 1957, Professor Joseph Kirkish joined as a faculty advisor to Tri-Beta. Professor Kirkish has remained a faculty advisor to Mu Beta Psi to this day, celebrating his 50th year as Zeta's advisor this spring. Many traditions carried over during the transition, including An Excursion in Sound, an annual talent show hosted by the group. As Zeta Chapter, Mu Beta Psi became Michigan Tech's first co-ed fraternity in 1971, when the first female members joined the group.

As the years have gone by, the group has remained strongly connected with the band, but constantly seeks to support all forms of music in the Keweenaw. As we look back on the last 40 years, many things that started as projects of Brothers have grown into independent organizations at Michigan Tech, including the Michigan Tech Arts Festival, Sound and Lighting Services, and the Student Entertainment Board. Zeta will be celebrating these milestones in early November, remembering their past, but planning for their future. 🎵

Arthur Kitti: Michigan Tech Legend

By Andrew Stephens, Zeta Chapter

Alpha looks to Major Percy Walter Price for his work in founding the NC State music department, not to mention our Fraternity as a whole. However, Zeta has a lesser-known man to thank for their university's fine arts program: Arthur Kitti. A flutist first and foremost, he performed nationally before settling into a teaching career in both Chicago and the Houghton area. Along the way, he essentially created the music department at Michigan Technological University, and founded Zeta's predecessor Tri-Beta. He stated his guiding principle for music like this: "Great musicians of our time are no different from those deceased. A person must have the fundamental requirements of talent and desire. If it has to be measured, I would say it takes 90 percent work and 10 percent talent. Those who have accomplished anything have worked to attain it."

A native of Calumet, Michigan (just north of Michigan Tech), Arthur was born on October 13, 1893, to Henry A. and Mary Wickstrom Kitti, a pair of Finnish immigrants. Arthur's family seems immense by today's standards, as he was one of 13 Kitti children, but this family dynamic was fairly common in that day. However, his family was unique in how musical it was: his father played cornet and led multiple bands, and at least five of his siblings were either professional or amateur musicians. Arthur's first performance came in one of the bands his father led, the Finnish Boys' Band, and later he joined the Calumet High School Orchestra. As an indicator of his musical and academic talent, he was sent to represent his high school at a state conference in 1912, just before going to college at the Busch Conservatory in Chicago for music performance.

Like many students, Arthur was unsure of himself when he first entered the university, and for a time he left Busch to study at Manlius Military Academy in upstate New York. However, he regained his confidence and came back to Busch, making a name for himself as an excellent flutist. At one point while his student orchestra was practicing, the conductor deliberately stopped in the middle of a piece and asked, "Mr. Kitti, do you ever make a mistake?" After serving in the Navy as a bandleader during World War I, Kitti's flawless playing would propel him into a position at the Chicago Symphony Orchestra as a flutist and the sole piccolo player for nearly ten years. Also, during the 1920s, he was an adjunct professor of flute performance at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, a position to which he would later return.

By 1930, Arthur was tiring of the city and illness forced him to take his leave of the symphony. He and his

brother Carl toured Europe for a time, practicing with the influential French flutist Marcel Moyse for nearly a month. However, Arthur chose to return to the Keweenaw Peninsula and take up the Director of Bands position at the Michigan College of Mining and Technology in 1931. Michigan Tech's ROTC Band had begun in 1928, but was by all accounts a mediocre group. By the time Arthur left, however, it was one of the best groups in the area, and his only regret with them was that he hadn't challenged them enough as musicians. During this time, Arthur also led the all-male Glee Club and encouraged the Techcollegian Dance Band. Also, most notably for those from Zeta, he formed Tri-Beta Honorary Band Fraternity on April 14, 1932 for the purpose of creating a bigger, better band.

When not busy with his duties at Michigan Tech, Arthur returned to Calumet to lead the Calumet and Hecla Band (once one of the premier brass bands in the country), the Works Progress Administration Band (funded by Roosevelt's New Deal), and the Calumet Orchestra, with local talent as well as his friends from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. From 1931 until 1939, Arthur was a fixture in the Keweenaw music scene, and left the music program in excellent shape for Tech's next director (and Tri-Beta's next advisor) B. Franz Schubert.

By 1940, Arthur was again in Evanston, this time teaching students at his independent "Arthur Kitti Music Studio." Writing a flute lesson book with one of his students and teaching at local high schools, he also found the time to return to Calumet to marry Althea Carlson in 1947. However, he would only teach until 1952, when he returned to Calumet permanently to retire and raise a family. In 1970, he was forced to move to the Houghton County Care Facility, but lived there for 15 years before passing away on September 13, 1985, exactly a month shy of his 92nd birthday. Even today, he's listed by world-class flutists as one of their teachers, which is a measure of respect for the man that was proudest of his Bachelor's degree because of all the students he was able to influence over his lifetime. ♪

This work was condensed from a larger study of Arthur Kitti, created for an Independent Study history class in the Michigan Tech Social Sciences department.

In Brief ... the Pipes

By Kate Capehart, Mu Chapter

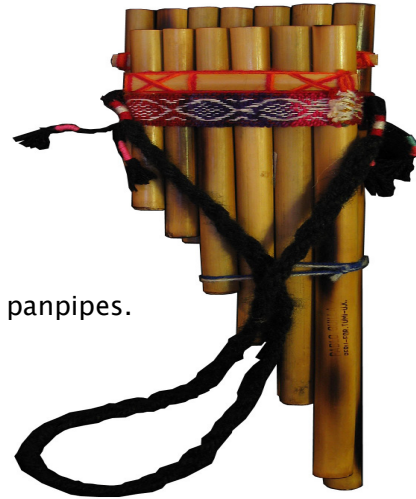
If you've ever imagined a Brother playing the pipes that appear on our crest, you've probably also imagined him or her with nubby horns and goat's legs, leaping merrily through a forest or field.

This image, as hilarious as it sounds, is very similar to the way the pipes first appeared in recorded history. Another name for this multi-tubed instrument is *panpipe*, christened so for the Greek demigod Pan, the satyr responsible for herding. Pan is the archetypal pastoral figure. Ovid writes of Pan sitting by a riverbank, hearing the wind whistle through the reeds. Pan becomes intrigued by the "mournful moaning sound" they make. He cuts the reeds into pieces (some shorter and some longer to produce different pitches), lashes them together, and in two shakes of a satyr's tail, the panpipe is born.

Although Ovid's is the only written account of the pipes we have from so far back, it's highly likely that a similar revelation was occurring to other populations (decidedly less goatish) across the ancient world. Panpipes were made with reeds, river cane, and bamboo- stuff that the peoples of the ancient world could find everywhere. Because this music-making material was in such plentiful supply, it's no surprise that the panpipe, being one of the oldest instruments in the world, was so widespread. Archaeological evidence of panpipes occurs all over the world, including China, Istanbul, Africa, South America, and even Viking Scandinavia.

Over the course of the millennia, the set of reeds tooted into by a mythological goat has taken many forms. There is the circular dding-dek, a panpipe of the Montagnard people of Vietnam; the pai xiao, a horseshoe-shaped panpipe of China dating back to 400 B.C.; a curved ceramic Peruvian panflute of the first century A.D.; and a replica of a red oak Viking panpipe dated to the tenth century.

The Romanian *Nai* is a more recent derivation of the panpipe that is enjoying a resurgence of popularity after its near-extinction after World War II. Naists and their pipes have been featured in the music of Sting (remember the haunting sounds of *Desert Rose?*), Shakira, and (with Pan turning over in his grave) Marilyn Manson. The panpipe also makes an appearance on *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King* soundtrack. Although the panpipe has a very humble beginning in the hands of a satyr, it is slowly gaining ground as an instrument worth noting (pardon the pun), and perhaps with the Brotherhood's help, it can continue to give voice to the soul of life. ♪



Chilean panpipes.

Mu Beta Psi Pride

By Erin "Moot" Clark, Omicron Chapter Alumnus

*In the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virgin-I-A
Olin Hall is where I spent most of my days
Singin' and studyin', well, that was cool,
But Psi showed me that there's more to school.*

There's a tribute to a favorite song from Omicron's initiations. (Oh, c'mon. Will Smith didn't rap any better than that. Can somebody please tell me what "maxin'" is and why he was doing it on a playground?)

That aside, the purpose of this little article is to say that I remain deeply honored to be a Brother of Mu Beta Psi. It's the same kind of pride I felt in high school for my country as I played our National Anthem at the beginning of each football game, and in college as I sang in Normandy with the Roanoke College Choir.

It's the same kind of pride I feel as I play with my eight-month-old daughter. It's the pride that comes from being a part of something that's bigger than yourself: something that's made better because good people - people you care about - are a part of it. (I know: I've been absent. But I hope to be more involved as an alum soon.)

I'd like to say thank you to all my Brothers, to those of you I'm close to and those I've never even met, for being who you are and making this Fraternity what it is. I am honored to be one among you. ♪

Reflections on Convention 2007: Clemson Hospitality

By Ryan Hauck, Alumni Association

I'll admit it—bringing Convention to Clemson was a selfish idea at first. In fact, I didn't actually think anyone would seriously consider it, especially coming from a "homer" like me. I brought it up at a Mid-Year meeting almost as an attempt at levity. How little did I know that the idea would catch hold like wildfire. Before you could say "Where the Blue Ridge yawns its greatness," nearly 100 Brothers were on the campus where Delta Chapter was once a proud and active member of the Clemson community.

From the very beginning, I knew that this convention could be special. I wanted to honor the memory of Delta Chapter while not dwelling on it. I wanted to show everyone the campus and Chapter that I call home, while simultaneously building their enthusiasm to take home to their own Chapters. I wanted Brothers of the newer generations to see Delta's home, which most of them had never seen and may never again get a chance to see, at least from a Fraternity perspective. I wanted to make the Chapter real for them, rather than just a name and date to learn while pledging. I wanted to expose everyone to that famous "Clemson family" hospitality. I wanted Delta Chapter and Mu Beta Psi to have one last grand hurrah on Clemson's campus and for people to remember Delta positively. After more than ten years of struggle and heartbreak and frustration, I wanted Delta to go out on a high note. And more subtly—but most importantly—I felt the Fraternity needed closure. I wanted to give Mu Beta Psi the chance to say goodbye to Delta Chapter.

Through a series of chance events, I eventually ended up as Convention Coordinator. Although I didn't originally want this job, I think now that it was meant to be. I'd



Brothers viewing the Carillon bells in the clock tower.

never ran a convention before, but I've been involved in planning two, and I have a good eye for details. I assembled my committee—myself, Casey Hatcher, Alana Kirby, and Natalie Shearer—and as a team we spent countless hours putting together the perfect weekend. I thought it was tough to plan conventions in general—imagine planning one from 200 miles away! We jumped through more hoops, chased down more false leads, and put up with more hassle than any person should have to endure. But we persevered through all the trouble and all the four hour online meetings to pull off what I think was the best convention in years. I cannot thank my committee enough for what they accomplished. They worked so hard to put together a great weekend and we did an amazing job.

This convention was all about the spirit of Mu Beta Psi. As the t-shirt says, "Honoring the Past, Celebrating the Future." Mu Beta Psi was at Clemson for so long that its presence is permanently embedded into the campus, if you know where to look. Delta Chapter practically ran the marching band for 50 years. They started one of the jazz bands. They were key members of Clemson's most famous big band, the Jungaleers. They were leaders in the chorus for decades. To this day, a Brother directs the orchestra. My goal was to show everyone what Delta Chapter was really like while it was here—to make Delta a personal experience deep in the heart of every attendee. I wanted everyone to *feel* like they were part of Delta and to understand intrinsically how important Delta was (and is) to Mu Beta Psi.



Brothers April Eason, Ashley Peacock, Tony Sprinkle, Matt Wood, and Katie Gerhardt (front) sing *Don't Stop Convention*, Alpha Chapter's bid to host in 2008.

To that effect, we decided to put a little extra oomph into Convention. I think Phillip Staten picked up on some of that idea when he suggested a radical departure from

the traditional “meetings all day” structure of Convention. The two ideas meshed well. From the beginning, we saturated the Fraternity with three ideas: Clemson, Delta, and Brotherhood. From the Clemson and Delta ideas we created the campus tour and Carillon (bell tower) tour, and we opened the old Delta Chapter lounge for everyone to experience. (Ironically, I forgot to include the lounge on the campus tour! I was horrified when I realized my error.) From the Brotherhood idea we created Psi Jeopardy! (a pure stroke of genius—this was such a fun event), Friday communal dinner, and even threw in a tour of Kappa Chapter. We wanted to do it all—oh, if only you could have heard the ideas we *didn't* implement. We also inadvertently programmed in large chunks of time during the day when Brothers could simply hang out and not worry about what meetings they were missing. That may have turned out to be one of the best decisions of all—simply letting people socialize informally. In a stroke of luck, the weather was perfect all weekend long.

I thank Delta Alumnus James Hyslop for organizing the Carillon tours for us. He was a carillonneur during his time at Clemson and hooked us up to get into the bell tower. I was a bit nervous about this event, as I wasn't sure how popular it was going to be, but it ended up being one of the hits of the day. We were blessed to have Dr. Lisa Benson conduct four guided tours of the bell tower for us—I honestly think she was as excited to give the tour as we were to go on it. She said she never gets to give the tour to such enthusiastic groups, much less to musicians, and she had a ball letting us play on the bells for as long as we wanted. It was a lot of fun to hear people playing their alma maters and fight songs, and perhaps best of all I got to hear *Hail The Spirit* play several times. (Okay, perhaps the best moment was hearing my own alma mater played by Dr.



Brothers enjoy the sunshine on Bowman Field.

Benson, but *Hail the Spirit* was a close second.) We owe a debt of gratitude to Dr. Benson for being such a great tour guide.

Singing *Hail the Spirit* in the courtyard of the Student Union was nothing less than a spiritual moment. That courtyard was the location for countless pledge classes singing songs at the top of their lungs over the years. I remember singing Clemson's alma mater many times there as both a pledge and a Brother; I remember many a Brother signing my paddle there. To hear 85 Brothers singing our Fraternity song there was a highlight of the weekend. It was absolutely incredible.

I think my favorite part of Convention was the nighttime campus tour. This was truly a unique event, one that I wanted to use to demonstrate the deep relationship between Clemson and Mu Beta Psi; the spirit of Delta comes out strongest on campus in the middle of the night. I hoped that by going on the tour people would be able to imagine themselves as a Delta Brother during the Chapter's strong years. I wanted them to see, hear, and touch Delta Chapter—to make Delta more than just a concept. I showed the tour group not just the typical Clemson landmarks, but also little out-of-the-way, otherwise unremarkable places on campus that have a deep, sacred meaning for Delta. I found myself using the term “hallowed ground” many times throughout the tour and I really meant it. In addition, I wanted to show Brothers from other Chapters where some of their traditions originated. There were times in the tour where we were literally standing in the very spot where traditions carried on by other Chapters saw their genesis, or talking to the very people responsible for traditions still used today at different Chapters. I ended the tour after about two



Haley Vingsness, Scott Nelson, Sandy Orlowski, Alex Dimitrijeski, and Heather Vingsness wear their “I Love Chrissy” [Bischoff] shirts to the banquet.

Please see *Reflections* on page 8

Honoring the Past...

Dear Alumni Association,

This is a letter of appreciation for a wonderful Convention. As it was only my second convention, I didn't have many expectations, and honestly, I didn't think too much on what it meant that a more experienced body of Brothers would be putting this one together.

I'd like to thank you for setting a wonderful example. The convention was well organized. Any hiccups were gently and easily handled. Personally, I had a lot of fun and there is strong evidence that the other brothers did, too. I can only hope that the collegiate brothers took note and realized the grace with which a convention can be run.

I hope that you've considered recording any techniques or tactics that you used to run such a successful event. It would be of great use to any less experienced brother trying to organize their first convention.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Andrew Spina 🎸

**Special Thanks
to the
2007 Convention
Committee:**

Ryan Hauck, chair

Casey Hatcher

Alana Kirby

Natalie Shearer



Brothers gather in Clemson's Student Union Courtyard for *Hail the Spirit*. An audio recording of this rendition of the song is available on the Brothers' Intranet.

Reflections from page 7

hours and got a very real sense that everyone with me had gained a new, deep reverence for Mu Beta Psi and for Delta. As for myself, I thoroughly enjoyed giving the tour and seeing my old stomping grounds again with Brothers.

My second favorite part of Convention was the banquet. I wish we'd been able to play some music for everyone—I missed watching the Gator—but I think we had a fantastic time nevertheless. I was greatly honored to see many Delta Alumni come back to campus for the banquet. Their presence was so important to me; I have always been in awe of the Deltas that came before me, and that awe was shown to be well-justified. It was even more important for me to show that though Delta is dormant, its alumni are still everywhere and still consider the Chapter an important part of their lives. We alumni *are* Delta Chapter now, and it's our responsibility to keep it alive. There was perhaps no better example of the importance of our alumni than when a gentleman and his wife, both in their 60s, randomly walked up to us at the banquet. The man introduced himself as LeRoy Adams; he said he'd been in Mu Beta Psi in the 1960s and was so excited to see us there. He and his wife both talked at length about their memories of Delta—they even told us that LeRoy still had his paddle at their house. The look of joy and nostalgia on this man's face was amazing and moving. We also found out that LeRoy is still at the University and occupies a position of high visibility. It only cements the idea that the Chapter still lives at Clemson. We had the unfortunate duty of telling him Delta had recently gone dormant; amazingly, his first response was not "Wow, that's really sad. I'm sorry to hear it," but "Well, how do we get it back?" *We*. How do *WE* get it back? I'm willing to bet that before the banquet, LeRoy had not heard from Mu Beta Psi in 20 years or more, but he immediately and instinctively leapt to the Chapter's defense. Such is the strength of Mu Beta Psi at Clemson.

All through the banquet, I could feel the joy, energy, and passion of Mu Beta Psi. I could feel the ghosts of 70 years of Delta Chapter surrounding us in the



... and Celebrating the Future!

At General Assembly, Brothers approved Alpha Chapter's bid to host Convention 2008. Just in case other brothers had any doubts, Alpha prepared a stunning a capella argument for why we should have convention at North Carolina State University next year.

Don't Stop Convention

Lyrics by Evan "Bosley" Graham and Alpha Chapter

To be sung to the tune of "Don't Stop Believin'" by Journey.

Just a small town Mu
Trying to get interviews,
She took the midnight train
to Convention.

Just a Zeta Boy
Trying to submit reports,
He took the midnight train
to NC State.

Alumni in a smokey car
They won't have to drive too far,
The hotel is right down the street.

Party on and on and on and ooonnnn.

Brothers meeting
In our many meeting rooms,
Pledges have to wait outside.

General Assembly
I object to that motion,
Alpha, Convention in '08.

Don't stop Convention
Let's all go to Alpha Chapter,
We've got bricks and lots of squirrels.

Don't stop Convention
Let's all go to Alpha Chapter,
We've got bricks and lots of squirrels.
♫

room and giving us strength. I could almost see the faces and hear the voices of all those Brothers who came before me, who gave me the opportunity to be a part of this organization. We did right by those men and women by bringing Mu Beta Psi back to campus one last time. We made them proud. Conversely, they helped me to show you just how amazing Delta Chapter was and how important Mu Beta Psi is. Even more, I think they helped to make us all appreciate not just Delta, but every Chapter. They helped us strengthen our resolve to make our Chapters stronger, bigger, and healthier. I hope the legacy of Delta Chapter is that we never lose another Chapter. That's a legacy all Delta alumni would be proud of.

As I stated at banquet and throughout the weekend, my personal aim was not just to ensure everyone had a good time, but to ensure that this convention was memorable. While it was not quite my intention to make it the "Best Convention Ever," I did want people to talk about it for a long time. I hope I accomplished that. And even more, I wanted people to remember Delta Chapter on a personal level—to feel like *they* were part of its history. I wanted to give everyone a chance to say their farewells to this old and historic Chapter. I wanted everyone to bleed just a little bit of Clemson/Delta orange, if only for a moment. If I accomplished that, then I believe I've reached the pinnacle of my Fraternal experience.

It had been a decade since I could walk the campus of Clemson University and feel like the Fraternity was present in full force. Convention 2007 brought that feeling back. It was an unbelievable emotion...euphoric, joyous, and overwhelming at times. Most of all it did indeed provide me a sense of closure, a chance to say goodbye to Delta in the manner that it deserved. There haven't been that many Brothers on campus since at least 1995, the last time Delta hosted Convention, and there will likely never be that many again. So those of you who attended Convention this year, you are part of something special. For a few days in March 2007 on the campus of Clemson University, it was as if Delta had never left. ♫

Police Report:

At Convention, a rubber chicken belonging to President Phillip Staten was stolen by Board of Trustees Chairman Ben Griffeth. The chicken was returned to Brother Staten, but only after President Staten fulfilled the condition of completing interviews with all pledges in attendance. Investigative reports show that the chicken was not harmed (at least not physically) during its absence. Pictures were submitted as evidence of the chicken's safety, and are published here as proof.



Ben Griffeth calmly explains to the purloined chicken that it will not be harmed in any way ...if it cooperates, that is.

Meet the New National Officers

This year, four national offices changed hands. Three of these offices were elected, and one was nominated by the BOT for approval of the Brotherhood. Newly elected officers are Andrew Fleming, National President; Julie Lyon, National Secretary; and Megan Roble, National Editor of *The Clef*.

Also, Nathaniel Kulyk was nominated by the Board of Trustees to fill the National Historian vacancy left by Shari Baxter, who recently resigned from this position. We thank Shari for her years of service as our National Historian!

In addition to new Brothers in these four positions, Chrissy Bischoff was re-elected as National Vice-President of Chapter Maintenance.

National President Andrew Fleming grew up in Milford, Michigan on the fringe of metropolitan Detroit. He went to Michigan Technological University, majoring in Physics and minoring in Astrophysics. As a freshman, he joined the MTU Huskies Pep Band playing the trumpet and pledged Mu Beta Psi that spring (2001). At Zeta Chapter, he served as NCE representative, Member-at-Large, and President. In 2004, he moved to New York City to begin graduate work at Columbia University in the field of Astrophysics. In October 2006, he received his Master's from Columbia, and he now works at Conde Nast Publications in New York as a producer for websites. He spends his free time swing and ballroom dancing and exploring the great city of New York.

National Secretary Julie Lyon pledged Alpha Chapter (NC State) in the Fall of 1998 with the "Treblemakers." She held several leadership positions while active at Alpha, including President of the Chapter. She also led the Chapter in coordinating Mu Beta Psi's 75th Anniversary celebration in Raleigh during the summer of 2000 and in hosting National Convention 2001. After graduating from NC State, Julie served as National

Treasurer from 2002-2005. She will graduate this May with her Ph.D. in Industrial-Organizational Psychology from the University of Maryland-College Park. Julie will be an Assistant Professor in the business school at Roanoke College, beginning this fall.

National Editor of *The Clef* Megan Roble joined Xi Chapter (Saint Vincent College) as a freshman with the Lambda pledge class in Spring 2002. While at Xi, Megan held several leadership positions, including Music Activities Coordinator, Vice-President, Historian, and Convention Coordinator for the 2005 National Convention. She graduated in 2005 with a dual degree in Psychology and English, and is currently pursuing School Psychology Certification and D.Ed. at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

National Historian Nathaniel Kulyk pledged Xi Chapter (Saint Vincent College) in Spring 2001, and served as Member-at-Large and Sergeant-at-Arms during his three years with the Chapter. He was also a member of the SVC Pep Band, the Saint Vincent Singers, and The Company. He earned his BA in History with a minor in Political Science in 2004 and his MA in Public History at American University in 2006. Prior to being elected as National Historian, he served as National Secretary from 2004-2007. He currently lives in Arlington, Virginia. ♪

Annual Awards

These honors are presented each Convention by the Alumni Association. Congratulations!

Major Kutschinski Award: Zeta Chapter

The purpose of this award is to honor the Mu Beta Psi Chapter that most successfully promotes the four goals of the Fraternity during the previous year.

Ralph Daniel National Brother of the Year Award: Sandy Orlowski

The purpose of this award is to honor the Mu Beta Psi Brother that most successfully promoted the goals of the Fraternity at-large during the previous year.

"Price"less Memories Scrapbook Award: Zeta Chapter

At each Convention, all collegiate chapters are judged by Alumni Association members. Best scrapbook wins!

Guidelines for the Kutschinski and Daniel Awards are posted on the National Website. It is not too early to start documenting your Chapter's service for a Kutschinski application or to think about a Brother you feel deserves the Daniel Award.



Psi Jeopardy! Winners

Congratulations to Team "What are We?" for winning Psi Jeopardy! at Convention. The team was composed of **David Lee** (Apha), **Scott Nelson** (Zeta), and **Sarah Flourance** (Mu Upsilon Alpha).



The chicken's custody is maintained by Bryan Reamer (top right), Matt Zander (above), and Abra Hill (right). The chicken was not denied the right to participate in activities such as the Delta Night Tour, General Assembly, or the Banquet.



World Wide Wondering

Part V: Protecting Your Content

By Kevin Britton, NITC Chair

In the last installment of *World Wide Wondering* (see Fall 2006's *The Clef*), we discussed adding advanced features such as database content, message boards, blogs, and chat capabilities to your site to make it more interactive. This time, we'll focus our attention on protecting your site's "special" content from unwanted access.

The Internet is a complex environment. On the bad side of it, hackers, phishers, and spammers seek to use your site for their own purposes, and are willing to use whatever means are necessary (i.e. trojans, gateways, security holes, and spiders) to gain access to your site, harvest email addresses for their spam lists, and the like. Somewhat less malicious, but certainly undesirable if you have information to protect, are the spiders and robots used by search engines to index your site. Once a search engine has cached your page, no amount of protection will prevent users from searching and accessing your information, at least until the cache expires.

Both situations offer strong reasons for the necessity of information security when building a website.

Password Protection

Two different methods are presented here for adding password protection to a site. The first, called *.htaccess*, is universally supported by all web browsers and requires minimal programming. The second, referred to as "database user authentication," is considerably more involved, but offers a means to integrate with other features, such as a message board.

To use *.htaccess*, a specially formatted file (named, appropriately, *.htaccess*) is placed in the directory that is to be protected. The directory (and any subdirectories) will use the rules contained in this file when serving any files requested from another computer. (Note: this file has no name, but is only an extension.)

A second file, *htpasswd* contains the username/password combinations used by *.htaccess*. Multiple *.htaccess* files can share one *htpasswd*, and for security purposes, it is recommended that *htpasswd* be stored in a directory not accessible via the Internet. A comprehensive guide to *.htaccess* can be found at <http://www.javascriptkit.com/howto/htaccess.shtml>.

In addition, several tools exist for encoding passwords for use in *htpasswd*. One such tool can be found at <http://www.tools.dynamicdrive.com/password/>.

In some instances, it can be advantageous to utilize a database to store user information instead of relying on individual *.htaccess* files. With a little coding, this can easily handle large numbers of users, the ability for users to change their own passwords, additional options for storing user profiles, and better integration to other website features including message boards, chat rooms, etc.

Generally, a database solution is tied (and built-in) to a stand-alone software product, such as a message board. The user authentication strategy can then be copied or referenced directly for use outside of the software. The use of cookies can maintain a user's login over multiple page views, or even across multiple visits.

If you want database authentication but don't want the features of a message board or other software package, a number of stand-alone database authentication scripts are available. A Google search for "website user authentication" is a good place to start.

Controlling Automated Indexing

Automated "spiders" that sweep the Internet typically look to accomplish one of two goals: gathering email addresses for the purposes of sending email (spamming), and indexing a site for a search engine.

The best way to avoid having email addresses indexed is to not include them - directly, anyways - on your site. Common disguises are to use images (either static or script-generated) or replace the @ symbol with other text (e.g. joe(at)domain.com, joe @ domain.com, note the space before and after the symbol). Also, avoid using mailto: links, which are the easiest type of address to index. If you need to permit direct emailing from your site, consider a feedback form, which uses a site script to send email.

Search engine spiders can be controlled by adding the file robots.txt to your root web directory. The robots.txt file contains a list of robots and statements excluding certain content or directories from being indexed. More information on controlling robots can be found at <http://www.robotstxt.org/wc/exclusion-admin.html>.

Conclusion

The ability to control access to your site's content is an important element in maintaining a successful website. Not only will your site be more secure, but your users will benefit from the additional privacy and functionality of the site.

If you have any ideas for future editions of *World Wide Wondering*, please email them to me at [webmaster\(at\)mubetapsi.org](mailto:webmaster(at)mubetapsi.org). 🐘

National President Report

By Andrew Fleming

I am pleased and honored to be writing my first *Clef* report as National President. It's exciting to be working with all the National Officers, new and old, and to be taking these steps toward building a strong future for Mu Beta Psi.

First and foremost, I'd like to thank the members of the Alumni Association Convention Committee for all of their hard work in pulling off a fantastic Convention. I'd especially like to thank all of the Delta Chapter alumni who came out to share their Chapter with everyone. To see Delta Brothers on Clemson's campus again was inspiring, and for a few days, Delta Chapter was as vibrant and strong as it has ever been. I would also like to thank the Alumni Association for its commitment to the liability insurance fund. As many of you know, liability insurance has been a long time in the making. At this Convention, anticipating the approval of the Brotherhood to attain an insurance policy, the Alumni Association generously supported that decision by pledging to raise \$5,000 for the liability fund this year.

In these few weeks since Convention, most of my work has been assessing the state of things within the Fraternity. I've been in touch with some of the National Officers and Chapters already, and I'll be contacting all officers and Chapters by the end of this month. One of the topics I want to cover with all of the Chapters is the plan for a visit to each Chapter by NVPCM Bischoff, C-BOT Griffeth, or myself. We are all excited about the prospect of working more closely with our collegiate Brothers.

Additionally, I have been in contact with Kirklin & Co., the liability insurance company we have elected to negotiate with. We are currently working on putting together the necessary paperwork to get the policy underwritten, and hope to have the policy in place for the next academic year. Brother Staten has, meanwhile, been in touch with me regarding the Fraternity's tax exemption status application, which should also be completed very soon. These two items of business are major steps into bringing Mu Beta Psi up to date and providing for our Fraternity's future.

I look forward to a great year working with all of my Brothers, and encourage anyone and everyone be in touch whenever they like. I can be reached by phone at 646-265-4802, by AIM at zetgem, or by email at andrew.justin.fleming@gmail.com. ♪

National Vice President of Chapter Maintenance Report

By Chrissy Bischoff

Hello Brothers!

I am very thankful to the Chapters for re-electing me for another two years as NVPCM! Now that I have finished a year of writing handbooks, establishing a website, and getting a sense of each Chapter, I am looking forward to refocusing my attention on the here and now of each Chapter, as well as expanding the resources which I have established in the past year.

All Chapters are now in possession of the new Chapter Maintenance Handbook. I cannot begin to thank all the Brothers who contributed to the expansion of this resource. Please use it often!

The NCCM enjoyed a well-deserved lull after Convention as many of our collegiate Chapters took their spring breaks. Our focus until the end of the year will be on "setting up" Chapters to be in good shape by the fall and planning a mid-summer retreat. The NCCM will also be helping to coordinate visits to Chapters this year from Andrew Fleming, Ben Griffeth, and myself.

At Convention, I announced the establishment of a Chapter Maintenance Reference Library. The purpose of this library is to collect and maintain information relevant to the support our Chapters and to distribute it to Chapters in need. In this way, I hope to compensate for my own lack of expertise in certain areas, as well as to give the Fraternity a resource for the future. There are currently four books (one on fundraising, one on publicity, and two on teambuilding activities) and two articles in this library.

Donations to the reference library are welcome and appreciated! Copies of *Robert's Rules of Order*, books, magazines, or articles about fundraising, recruitment, conflict resolution, teambuilding, leadership training, alumni relations, or anything else that looks interesting can be mailed to me at 605 West 112th Street, Apartment 6B, New York, NY 10025 or emailed to me at maintenance@mubetapsi.org.

Have a relaxing and musical summer! ♪

Visit the Chapter Maintenance Website at
<http://www.mubetapsi.org/maintenance/>

National Secretary Report

By Julie Lyon

Thank you for selecting me to be your next National Secretary. I expect that I will come to know many of you in the next three years through our interactions in the National Office. I hope that you will come to me if you have any questions or concerns about the way things work. As this is my second tour as a National Officer (I had a tour of duty as National Treasurer a few years back), I am familiar with what needs to be done and how. I look forward to serving you in this new role, and I thank you for your vote of confidence for me at Convention.

Now, let's get down to business. The next deadlines of note are for April 30. All of the deadlines are available via a downloadable Google calendar from the National Secretary blog at <http://mubetapsi.blogspot.com>. Please add the blog to your regular reading list. It is available via RSS feed, so if you already compile your news, please add this blog to your list. Most of the information you need is available on the Intranet, in the Knowledgebase under "National Documents." You will find common forms and policies on the Intranet. The one that will affect you the most is probably the National Office Operations Policy (NOOP). As you can see from the NOOP, here are the upcoming deadlines:

- Initiation Report for Spring Initiates. Form and fee to the NT by April 30.
- Quarterly NCCM Report and the semesterly Pledging Report to the NVPCM by April 30.
- Summer address lists to me by April 30. An Excel template is available on the Intranet.
- Alumni Reports for spring graduates to me by April 30.
- Changes to Chapter By-Laws or Informal Rituals to me by April 30.

All of these reports are important in ensuring that we can contact you in the future and keep you involved in Mu Beta Psi affairs. If you have any questions about which forms you need or where to send them, please shoot me an email at secretary@mubetapsi.org.

I should have the Convention minutes posted to the Intranet soon. Thank you for your patience. My dissertation defense date was April 10. Now, you are able to call me Dr. National Secretary. ☺ It has been a long road, and I am looking forward to starting my new job as an Assistant Professor in the business school at Roanoke College.

My address through May 21, 2007, is 7830 Hanover Pkwy #201, Greenbelt, MD 20770. This summer, my address will be 2421A Fairway Dr., Raleigh, NC 27603.

Starting in August, I will have a new address in Roanoke or Salem, Virginia. I will keep you posted. Email remains the best way to get in touch with me: secretary@mubetapsi.org or nsmbpsi@gmail.com.

With that, I hope you have a terrific summer. I look forward to working with you! ♪

National Vice President of Expansion Report

By Sarah Morrison

This past year has been filled with ups and downs. I took over this office in April of 2006, following the formal dissolution of Pi Colony. We learned much during this colonization effort that has helped the NCE grow and build.

Fall had me holding an initial meeting that failed to reach quorum and I recognized that we needed to have a clean slate. I found myself changing jobs professionally and did not hold a second meeting until December. This meeting allowed me to grow professionally as an officer as I opened myself to learn more about what my committee truly expected of me. I continue to work more towards those goals set by my peers.

Based on this, I choose to "clean the slate." I ended all old business and stated that we would be looking at any locations as if we had never looked at it before. We have approved a very extensive timeline for Zeta to pursue Northern Michigan University over the next two years. Brothers began looking at schools local to them. Saginaw Valley State in Michigan was the first place we attempted to hold information sessions. We also looked at Winona State College in Minnesota, and although neither worked out, it is a great beginning. I thank my Brothers for taking initiatives in helping us initialize "cold calls."

We were approached by a very exciting interest from Mu Upsilon Alpha of Rutgers University in New Jersey in January of this year. Chrissy Bischoff and Andrew Fleming worked as emissaries for Mu Beta Psi to offer a personal view of our Fraternity to this local band fraternity. Based on their work and the committee's work, we had four guests from Mu Upsilon Alpha at Convention. At the time of this report, I have no news in this front, but remain optimistic.

I have learned much over the past several months. I am returning to my original goal of increased meetings, which will keep the excitement and interest of expansion. I am also working hard to motivate my

committee to feel ready for the work of expansion, as well as the fun.

I am charging the entire Fraternity to “own” expansion. Expansion is not simply about us getting bigger; it is about us bringing like-minded individuals to our Brotherhood and expanding the opportunities to serve. I have asked each chapter to pick a school and set out a realistic timeline to build a Fraternity that does not lose what it has, but enhances it. ♪

National Treasurer Report

By Abra Hill

I hope everybody is doing well now that spring is here. Things are going well and I expect the next few months to be a time of catch-up for me. Just as a note, I got married in December and my name is now Abra Hill, although I will still be using my adseelig@gmail.com email address for Fraternity business.

By the time this issue of *The Clef* is out, we should have tax-exempt status. Thank you, Phillip Staten, for spearheading this endeavor. This will be a very valuable status to have, as it allows people who donate to our organization to use the donation as a tax deduction.

One of the big things that happened at Convention this year was approval for the purchase of liability insurance. Mu Beta Psi had the desire for this insurance for years, but never had the means to pay for the premiums that companies quoted. This year, through the hard work of numerous people, we found a company that gave us an affordable quote and also came up with a financial plan to purchase the insurance. The premiums will be paid through a mixture of donations from alumni and an increase in national dues. Starting in Fall 2007, national dues will be \$60 a year. This increase in dues will go completely towards liability insurance.

In the next year, my goals for this office are to research and hopefully start implementing a long term financial plan for the Fraternity's money and to come up with a standardized format for bookkeeping.

This is the last year of my term as National Treasurer. Thus, it is the time for Brothers to start thinking about running for this position next year. If you have any questions, or just want to get involved, please let me know! ♪

National Editor of *The Clef* Report

By Megan Roble

Well, my first issue as NEOTC is done! Obviously...

Putting together *The Clef* took more of my time than I originally expected, but I am just fine with that, because Mu Beta Psi business is a welcome break from school and work. So many Brothers made my job easier by responding to calls for articles and jumping in when I needed writers. Only a few submissions were made past the deadline, and despite a last-minute hurdle with a main article, I am proud to present this issue on time.

I would like to extend special thanks to Andrea Zander, my predecessor, for creating a stylebook and template for the office, as well as doing the initial planning for this issue. Now that it is complete, I want to update the stylebook to address questions I encountered and editorial style decisions I made to encourage consistency in the years to come. In addition, I plan on creating a formal guide for article submissions and reports.

In the fall, I am going to shoot for another 24-pager, in which I hope to include a number of feature articles and more creative submissions from Brothers. Some possibilities for the next issue are the story of Chapter mascots, a Historian's Corner, and articles about music on the Internet. Please note the “Writers Wanted” section above your mailing address.

The biggest challenge I have encountered so far was to find and adapt the most appropriate editorial style for little things, such as numbers and capitalization of Fraternal terms. I already struggle to keep APA and MLA style separate in my mind, so if this particular issue isn't quite consistent, I apologize. In addition, this has been my first time in over five years creating a layout on a computer. Now that I have spent this issue fiddling around with the how-to of layout and printing, the next issue should be better.

Aside from *The Clef*, I hope to initiate work on something called *The Prospectus*, which should become a sort of press kit for Mu Beta Psi. I have discussed possibilities for the project with the NEC, and will begin collaborative work on this project over the summer.

In addition, I am challenging each of the collegiate Chapters to produce their own newsletter if they do not do so already. Having a Chapter newsletter is a promising way to keep alumni interested in Mu Beta Psi; it also facilitates communication between Brothers and can generate new ideas to span across Chapters.

I know it goes without saying, but if you have any ideas for future issues of *The Clef*, send them along to me! ♪

Greek Items

Hi! I stumbled upon these two websites:
www.greek101.com and www.somethinggreek.com.

Both sites carry some really cute Greek items. I'm sure each Chapter has their own source of lettered items, but perhaps Brothers may be interested in these.

Take care,
 Beth Demharter (Xi Chapter)

National Historian Report

By Nathaniel Kulyk

Greetings! I am pleased to offer my first report as National Historian. First and foremost, I would like to thank everyone for an outstanding 2007 Convention! It was a lot of fun, and I especially enjoyed being Alex Trebek for "Psi Jeopardy!" I would also like to thank everyone for confirming me to this office. It is truly humbling and I promise not to let you down!

I have wasted no time in moving forward with the documents that I received at the close of Convention. I am pleased to report that all of the records are currently in their own filing folders and are awaiting storage, as soon as a suitable filing cabinet can be found. So far, the documents I have sorted through include Alpha Chapter's financial records from the late 1970s to the early 1990s, Zeta Chapter's e-mail communications from the late 1990s, Nu Chapter's records from the past few years, Alumni Association records from 2005-2007, and a container filled with Alpha Chapter composites ranging from 1981-2001. The Heritage Foundation has been very generous in offering me some used filing folders, all of which are in good shape despite their previous use. I would like to acknowledge Sandy Orlowski, who has been very helpful in keeping an eye out for used filing cabinets that the Fraternity can use. At this time, my top priority is to be sure that all of the hard copies of documents that I have are in order before any scanning takes place.

I have been in contact with Shari Baxter in the hopes of arranging a smooth transition for the bulk of the Fraternity's archives. At the time I write this, we are looking at about a three to six month transition period for all of the documents. The primary reason for this is because she is still diligently working on her Ph.D., in addition to looking for work. While she is not exactly sure where she will be moving to as of yet, she has promised that everything will be turned over in an orderly fashion. Should the need arise, I am more than prepared to make a trip up to Maine in order to make sure that everything is together.

In addition to sorting through the documents that are currently in my possession, I have started work on an Archives Index. Created in Excel format, this index will specify the contents of the Archives, which are divided into several different sections. In addition, major items such as meeting minutes will be highlighted with the important topics that were discussed, so that if and when a future database is created, these topics can be inserted as keywords, which would greatly enhance the ability to search the archives. I will be meeting with Kevin Britton and the NITC at some point in the near future to discuss this project further.

Along with the preservation and enhancement of the Archives, I have a few ideas of my own which will help meet the goals given to the NHAC by the National Organization. The primary idea at this time involves an oral history project. This can be done either by taped interviews or by creating a questionnaire to be posted on the Intranet. All Brothers are welcome to participate and include their thoughts and reflections on the Fraternity, their most memorable moments, and how Mu Beta Psi has impacted their lives. This is a long-term project that would help to document the voices of our past for the future to enjoy.

Finally, I would like to encourage everyone to keep in touch with me. I am very accessible and easy to talk to. If you know of anything that you think would make a great addition to the Archives, please let me know! I am always very interested in receiving submissions, be they hard copies, electronic documentation, or photographs. The more things submitted, the more complete our Archives can be!

Best wishes with the close of your semester. I look forward to working with everyone for a long time to come! ♪

National Information Technology Committee Report

By Kevin Britton

At its February online meeting, the NITC discussed the need to systematically update the National Brothers Database user profiles with correct historical and contact information. The goal is to make the Database an active and important tool in staying connected with our alumni, while also helping all Brothers network, collaborate, and share in fellowship.

This project is a huge undertaking and will require the support and assistance of a great many people. Information on how you can help this effort will be sent to all alumni in the near future, and will be included in

future editions of *The Clef*. Thank you in advance for your assistance in what amounts to the first complete census of Brothers past and present across over 80 years of Fraternity history. The NITC will also soon be working with National Historian Nathaniel Kulyk to establish a searchable database of the Fraternity Archives.

Meanwhile, the NITC marked a milestone at the 2007 National Convention held at Clemson University. For the first time, digital archives of the Board of Trustees, National Executive Committee, and Legislative Council meetings were created using the digital video camera purchased by the Fraternity last year. In addition to the business proceedings, Alex Dimitrijeski's quick thinking led to an excellent audio capture of *Hail the Spirit*, which was performed by the Convention attendees! The recording is now available for download on the Intranet. Please contact the webmaster if you have any difficulty accessing the Intranet.

Last, please be aware that several National Officer positions changed hands at this year's Convention. To learn more about all of the new officers, the national committees, and the BOT, visit the Mu Beta Psi homepage at www.mubetapsi.org. ♪

Board of Trustees Report

By Benjamin Griffeth, BOT Chairman and Risk Manager

The Board has had a very productive year. We have had two and a half online meetings where we were able to plan for national business and review national goals. Most importantly, through the leadership of Sarah Morrison and Andrew Fleming, we have the ability to obtain liability insurance for the Fraternity.

During our meeting at Convention, we continued to perform our supervisory duties in reviewing the national officers not up for election and the candidates for National Historian.

Please join me in thanking your Board of Trustees for 2006-2007: Bryan Reamer (Vice-Chairman and Records Manager), Matt Zander (Membership Manager), Tim Kudlock (Financial Manager), Matt Wood, Sandy Orłowski, Anna Kaplan, Terrell Mitchell, Trista Wilkins, and Alana Kirby (Chapter Presidents). ♪

Alpha Chapter Report

By Kristen Clyburn, Alpha MAL

Greetings from Raleigh! Despite the typical North Carolina spring weather and the glorious dusting of bright yellow-green pollen everywhere, we at Alpha Chapter are doing well. We really enjoyed being able to see and spend time with everyone at Clemson at Convention, and hope everyone got home safely. We welcomed car loads of Zetas home with us—it was good to spend time with them, and we can't wait to be able to share our southern hospitality with everyone else next year!

We have an exciting spring semester coming up, as the music department has requested our help with numerous concerts held by the musical ensembles on campus. We're also going to be able to help with this year's Arts NC State Gala again, which gives us a change in our service from not only doing set ups and strikes, but also with ushering and doing other more people-oriented jobs.

MusicFest is also planned for this semester. The date is Friday, April 27, in the Talley Student Center Ballroom at 7pm. We will be showcasing local bands and probably some a cappella groups on campus. We hope that it will be a successful event.

The Brothers had a fun time with our spring pledge class, Sir Ramrod and the Chairpersons of the Board. They performed very well during the pledging season and both Brothers and pledges had their hand at some great pranks. Fortunately for the Brothers, they thought pranking was over before it really was... they didn't realize that it doesn't end until the start of Coda Week. If you have some pranking traditions at your chapter and would like to share, please send us an email at k.clyburn@gmail.com! ♪

Family Ties

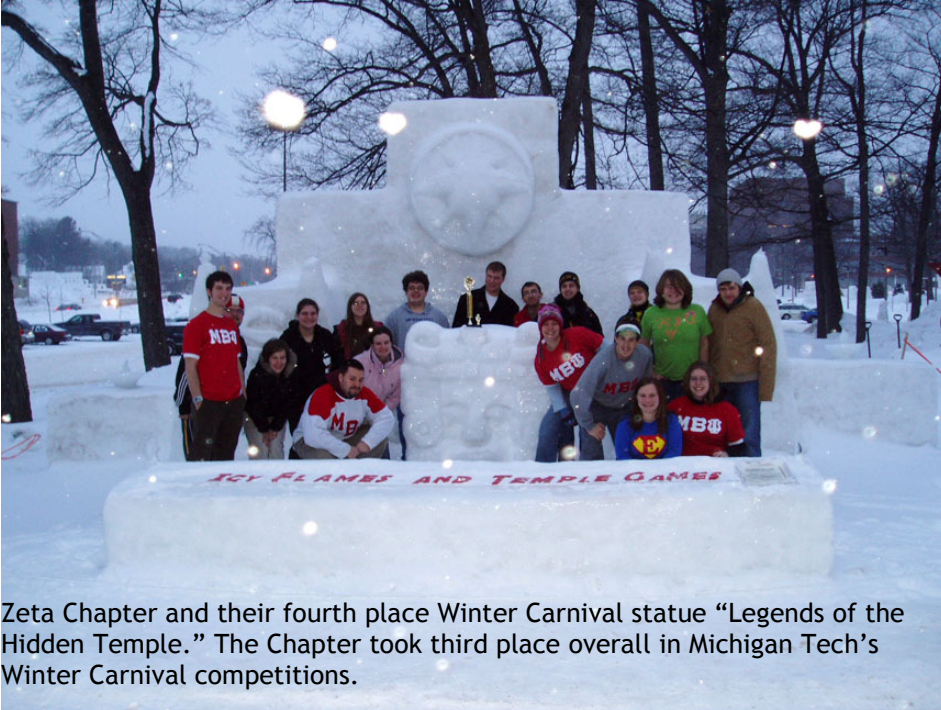
In February, Alumni Association President Alana Kirby received the following email from a relative of Major Kutschinski:

Hello! Major Kutschinski is my great-uncle. I found your site while doing some geneology. C. D. Kutschinski has a music library at Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp in Blue Lake, Michigan.

My brother is named after him, so there is another Christian Kutschinski walking this earth. Though we are not gifted musically, we do enjoy a wide variety.

Thank you for honoring my great-uncle and keeping his name alive!

Catherine Kutschinski, RN



Zeta Chapter and their fourth place Winter Carnival statue "Legends of the Hidden Temple." The Chapter took third place overall in Michigan Tech's Winter Carnival competitions.

Zeta Chapter Report

By David Klemens, Zeta MAL

Time is creeping ever closer to the end of the semester. Homework, tests, and projects are piling up, but Zeta Chapter is still going strong.

When we came back from break, Winter Carnival was just around the corner and we took advantage of this opportunity to strengthen our bonds as Brothers. We participated in as many events as we could, and even completed a month-long statue instead of a one-nighter statue. For our snow statue "Legends of the Hidden Temple," led by David Klemens, we took fourth place. The lovely Lian Tarhay was a finalist for Winter Carnival Queen, taking sixth place. For our Stage Review skit "Cave Men Rock," with Andrew Stephens and Katie Becker in charge, we took fifth place. When all the points were tallied, Zeta Chapter received third place overall in our division.

Also, we recently initiated three pledges: Ben Anderson, Rob Smith, and Heather Vingsness of the "Open Fifts" pledge class. We look forward to all that these new brothers can bring to the Fraternity!

Our annual spaghetti dinner was held on April 14. This year we tried something new. It was hosted at the Calumet Theatre. We donated the money to both the Calumet Theatre and the Michigan Tech Fine Arts department.

Last year, we brought back a concert we used to host, called Excursions in Sound. This year, we are bringing another event back from the grave: Spring Swing. Zeta

Chapter, in conjunction with the Michigan Tech Swing Dance Club, will be hosting a swing dance. We will have live music from one of the university's jazz bands, which is conducted by one of our advisors, Mike Irish.

Also, we recently celebrated Joe Kirkish's 50th year as our advisor. Alumni and friends joined us to honor our beloved advisor. Thank you, Joe, very much for your help and enduring dedication to us. While on the topic of anniversaries, we also are currently planning another celebration. Next fall will be the 75th year since our original Fraternity, Tri-Beta, was founded. But that's not all; November 23 2007 will be the 40th year since Zeta Chapter joined Mu Beta Psi. We celebrate many good years, and look to many more to come! ♪

Mu Chapter Report

By Chris Faulkenberry, Mu MAL

Mu Chapter began the semester with a concerned air, as its first attempt at the Alpha Gamma pledge class fell through due to scheduling conflicts; also, the end of this year, more than most, will mark a veritable "changing of the guard" among active Brothers. Most of the chapter is expected either to graduate this spring, become inactive next year, or both. In light of this, the Brotherhood was concerned that the relative few who remained would be laden with too great a burden, and sought to expand its membership. It was because of this that Mu Chapter decided to hold two pledge seasons this semester.

The Accidentally Gifted (Alpha Gamma) pledge class was initiated just before Convention, consisting of "Комрад" Sara Gallagher and Kate "She-ra" Capehart. The Brotherhood surged with the enthusiasm these two new Brothers brought, and launched headlong into the Alpha Delta pledge class, currently two pledges strong. The stress of older Brothers graduating is alleviated as fresh, new faces enter the fold.

Mu Chapter's commitment to service remained strong with the completion of the annual Psi Jam, an a cappella concert in which proceeds go to VH1's Save the Music. Plans to carry out the Senior Music Makers' Recital were stifled by the lack of available performance space because the usual recital hall is

under construction, but Mu Chapter will still recognize those outstanding seniors in the music department nominated for this honor.

Despite the worrisome air with which it entered the semester, Mu Chapter will emerge with renewed energy and vigor, ready to spread the message of Music, Brotherhood, and Service. ♪

Nu Chapter Report

By Emily Sorriento, Nu MAL

Things have been pretty busy here at Nu Chapter since the beginning of the spring semester. We had four wonderful pledges that made up the Alpha Beta Pledge class of Spring 2007. These new Brothers are Garrett Cooperman (Pledge Captain), Tamar Greene, Amanda Sawyer, and Benjamin Waterstraat. Their pledging committee consisted of Jenna Champion (Pledge Master), Jonathan Powers (Assistant Pledge Master), Laura Kelland (Old Brother), and Zachary Parchomenko (New Brother). Our pledges came a long way! Their initiations were held on April 13.

Aside from pledging, this semester there are many other things Nu has been busy with. Harmony on Ice, our broomball team, came together for a second

semester and did rather well by winning three games. We have also established a fundraising committee for our chapter. Committee members are coming up with new and creative ideas to raise money for our Chapter. Three of our brothers starred in S.U.N.Y. Oswego's production of "Lost in a Viral Paradise," which was a collaborative show between students and the Squonk Opera Company.

In the middle of March, Nu sent seven brothers to the National Convention in Clemson, South Carolina. All the Brothers that went had a wonderful and memorable time as they got to spend time bonding with each other and Brothers from other Chapters. Over the course of the convention weekend, Nu had some excitement as Brothers Monica Crandall and Lee Norton got engaged!

As usual, Nu is continuously providing service to our Music Department. We have ushered several concerts this semester and will continue to do so until the semester ends. Also, we had four Brothers attend and assist at the East Coast A Cappella Summit that was held in Washington, D.C. in late March. ♪

Nu Chapter shows off its letters: Bottom row (left to right) Julie Lillibridge, Sara Loiacono, Jennie McCarthy, Lindsey Oakes, Emily Sorriento and Jonathan Powers. Back Row (left to right) Kris Vicencio, Stephanie Bernat, Christine Duval, Garrett Cooperman, Tamar Greene, Amanda Sawyer, Zachary Parchomenko, and Ben Waterstraat.



Omicron Chapter Report

By Adam Keeling, Omicron Vice-President

Things have been going okay so far this semester. We completed our second Battle of the Bands, which went over pretty well. Local band A Venus Transit won the event and made off with the \$300 first place prize. We've been involved in quite a few events with the music department, including the bi-monthly Music at Noon events, the music department's scholarship competition, and also more recently Senior Recitals. Brother Lauren Taylor had hers on Sunday, April 15.

Omicron has Initiations Thursday, April 5, during which they brought in six new Brothers. They are LeAndra Cale, Allison Cassels, Stephanie Casciotta, Adam Gardner, Lauren Henschel, and Nick Kuckenbuch. We had a great turnout by our alumni, with roughly nine Omicron alumni showing up at various times during the night. Thanks also to Chris from Mu, who also made the trip up.

On the weekend of April 14-15, the Brothers of Omicron participated in the Relay For Life walk that was held on the back quad. Prior to the event, Lien-Thanh and Adam Keeling raised \$520, while working towards their \$700 goal for the weekend. Also that weekend, Brothers helped out with A Cappella Carnivalla, which is the annual a cappella meeting between schools throughout the area and along the Eastern Coast.

During Roanoke College Alumni Weekend (April 20-22), the Brothers of Omicron hosted an Alumni Picnic. Lots of fun ensued! ♪

Alumni Association Report

By Ryan Hauck, Alumni Association MAL

The Alumni Association has been busier this year than it has been in quite some time. Of course, the main reason for this was planning and hosting Convention 2007, but we've had some other activities going on, too. As of Convention 2007, our active membership stood at 38 Brothers spanning six decades of experience. Our membership has hovered around the 40 mark for at least two years in a row, which is a great sign of both stability and growth.

Our Gathering Committee has seen new life this year. Normally this committee only handles the logistics of Mid-Year and Convention meetings, but this year the committee went a bit further to organize social activities. During football season, alumni took advantage of a Steelers-Panthers game to gather clusters of Brothers in Pittsburgh and North Carolina to watch the game and do some friendly interstate trash-talking. *[Editor's note: In the spirit of trash-talking, it should be noted that Ryan did not need to mention*

who won, because it goes without saying that Pittsburgh is just better, yinz!] The Gathering Committee also organized the reception for prospective alumni at Convention this year, an event which has established an annual presence. Currently, plans are being made for Mid-Year 2007 (more on this event below) and for additional social events.

The Alumni Reorganization Committee made steady progress this year in the task of opening up the Alumni Association to a wider audience. Surveys about the Association were distributed and collected, and some recommendations for changes were made based on the responses. One such change under consideration is the addition of a Liaison Officer, whose job would be outreach and communication with the at-large alumni community. Our vision is to enlarge the Alumni Association to a point where hundreds of alumni are involved and informed in some fashion. If you or your Chapter have any suggestions about how the Alumni Association could improve its relationship and communication with alumni, please pass those ideas along.

On a related note, our Chapter wishes to stress once again how critical it is to have the collegiate Chapters' help in keeping accurate alumni records. Twice a year we solicit the Chapters for information about their recent initiates and graduates; once a year we request information about any alumni who have provided updates. The Alumni Association asks all collegiate Chapters to be diligent about sending in Brothers' information so that we don't lose graduates once they leave school.

Mid-Year 2007 is being held July 21-22 in Pittsburgh. The Gathering Committee is already planning some activities for the attendees, and the Chapter is really looking forward to revisiting the Latrobe area. We especially hope to see a lot of Xi alumni in attendance and would love to see an uptick in Xi alumni becoming active. We also extend a special invitation to Brothers who will be graduating this spring. We really want to see you join us and remain active! Remember that Chapter dues for your first year of activity are optional. Please contact any Alumni officer for details about how to join and how to attend Mid-Year. As the date grows closer, we'll be sending out information to the Fraternity e-mail lists, as well.

The biggest event of our year was hosting Convention 2007. Planning for Convention began almost two years in advance with selection of a location and appointment of a committee. The Alumni Association wanted to hold a truly unique and memorable event. We selected Clemson as our location to pay homage to Delta Chapter and its nearly 70 years of history. In addition to the historical component, we decided to implement some new events to engage everyone in centralized, organized activities. As anyone attending the last Alumni-hosted Convention can attest, coming up with events to keep Brothers together on "neutral territory" can be difficult, so we tried extra hard to provide ample social opportunities. Along with

President Phillip Staten's help and ingenious scheduling, we were able to include all sorts of awesome "side shows" in this year's Convention schedule. Saturday's banquet was extra-special, as nearly 100 people—not just active Brothers, but pledges, Mu Upsilon Alpha visitors, and Delta alumni from four decades—were in attendance. Delta Chapter memorabilia was also set up outside for all to peruse. Best of all, however, was the magnificent weather that graced the entire weekend. It allowed Brothers to congregate outside on beautiful Bowman Field for hours and hours of casual socialization and fun.

One of the most important decisions the Alumni Association made at Convention was a pledge to raise \$5,000 from its membership to contribute to the purchase of liability insurance. The time has finally come where liability insurance is both attainable and unavoidable. The cost of this insurance is staggering for such a small group, and asking the collegiate Chapters to shoulder the entire cost would have devastating consequences. The Alumni Association discussed this issue at great length and ultimately decided it was our duty as the alumni to shoulder the greatest burden for liability insurance. The

\$5,000 pledged will be collected from voluntary donations and is in addition to regular dues. The Chapter hopes to match this figure every year for as long as necessary to mitigate the burden upon the collegiates. It is our hope that by doing this, collegiates may focus on the goals and growth of the fraternity instead of constantly worrying about staggeringly high dues.

The Alumni Association again requests the help of collegiate Chapters and Brothers to help our Association grow. Whenever you have contact with your alumni, please pass their information to us and vice versa—encourage them to join the Alumni Chapter. Tell them about this new drive to support the Fraternity and encourage them to help. And finally, when you leave your hallowed halls, give strong consideration to continuing your service with the Alumni. We are constantly striving to make the Chapter worth your investment of time and money. Once again, if you have any questions about the Alumni Association, don't hesitate to contact any of our officers. ♪

Welcome, New Brothers!

Alpha

Ben "Benji" Byrom
Victoria "Caramel Delights" Bullock
David "David Ivy" Ivy
Matt "The Deaf Guy" Hux
Jonathan "JR" Rogers

Zeta

Ben Anderson
Rob "Decibel" Smith
Heather "Dungeon Master" Vingsness

Mu

Kate "She-Ra" Capehart
Sara "Komrad" Gallagher
Second pledge class to be initiated April 27.

Nu

Garrett "Jewethius" Cooperman
Tamar "King lsty T" Greene
Amanda "Ringo" Sawyer
Benjamin "Vibratti" Waterstraat

Omicron

LeAndra Cale
Allison Cassels
Stephanie Casciotta
Adam Gardner
Lauren Henschel
Nick Kuckenbuch

Congratulations, Graduates!

Alpha

April Anderson (Textile Engineering)
David Lee (Computer Engineering)
Matt Wood (Art Applications and Zoology, with Art Design and Japanese minors)

Zeta

Alexander Dimitrijeski (Management Information Systems)
Andrew Stephens (Liberal Arts, History Concentration)
Shawna Welsh (Biological Science)

Mu

Chris Faulkenberry (Religious Studies, with a Music minor)
Sean Galgano (Drama, with a Music minor)
Anna Kaplan (Anthropology, with a Creative Writing/Folklore minor)

Nu

Terrell Mitchell (Music)
Heather McDonald (Adolescence Education)
Nicole Arbes (Theater)
Lindsey Oakes (Human Resource Management)
Rachel Province (Childhood Education)
Matt Waskiewicz (Psychology)

Omicron

Adam Keeling (Criminal Justice)
Hilary LeBlanc (Art)
Lien-Thanh Kratzke (Biology)

Brotherly News

Engagements

Monica Crandall and Lee Norton (Nu)

Weddings (past and upcoming)

Jason Sigler and Meredith Paul (Omicron)

Brother Michael Toles and Meghan Corbett (Zeta)

Neil and Andrea Duncan (Zeta)

Chris Hill and Abra Seelig (Zeta)

Tara Smith and Nate Waybrant (Zeta)

Adam Keeling and Tracy Lynn Damon (Omicron)

New Arrivals

Erin (Mutterspaugh) and Chris Clark (Omicron): Annie Laurie Clark, July 7, 2006

John and Kirsten Holmlund (Zeta): Eric Holmlund, February 26, 2006

Joe and Tammy Derk: Darby Derk

Chris and Traci Rodkey (Xi): C.J. Rodkey

Deaths

Amanda Rowe (Zeta), March 15, 2007

Adele Meese (Honorary Zeta), March 21, 2007

Annie Laurie Clark at 8 months.



Eulogy for Amanda Rowe

Respectfully Submitted by Ryan Hauck, AA Secretary

Brother and former Alumni Association officer Amanda Rowe passed away on March 15, 2007, after a long illness. She was only 23.

Amanda was an initiate of Zeta Chapter and was also active at Xi Chapter for a short time. In the summer of 2004, Amanda traveled to the Alumni Mid-Year meeting, where she displayed great amounts of enthusiasm and energy for the fraternity. Despite her relative newness to the Fraternity and to the Alumni Association, she was elected Vice-President of the Chapter. Unfortunately, during her tenure she fell extremely ill and was not able to perform the duties as she was hoping to, but even when she was at her sickest, her desire to participate was very strong.

Many Brothers were not aware that Amanda had a very long list of severe medical problems, any of which could have contributed to her ultimate passing; despite those problems, Amanda was determined to make a contribution to Mu Beta Psi. In addition to being an officer with the Alumni Association, she was also actively involved in attempts to colonize Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C. This would have been a unique challenge for Mu Beta Psi, as Gallaudet is a school for deaf and hearing-impaired students. Despite the obvious challenge, Amanda still wanted to lead the charge in establishing a Chapter there.

For her enthusiasm and love towards our Brotherhood, we remember her and pay tribute to her life. ♪

Olivia Zander, daughter of Matt and Andrea Zander.



A-Mu-sements

Musical Summer Reading

Here's a list of fiction that has music as a theme:

- ♪ *Song of the Lark*, by Willa Cather
- ♪ *Reservation Blues*, by Sherman Alexie
- ♪ *Dragonsong*, by Anne McCaffrey
- ♪ *The Phantom of the Opera*, by Gaston Leroux
- ♪ *How I Paid For College: A Novel of Sex, Theft, Friendship, and Musical Theater*, by Marc Acito
- ♪ *Violin*, by Anne Rice
- ♪ *Soul Music*, by Terry Prachett
- ♪ *The Trumpet of the Swan*, by E. B. White (a children's book, but we're all young at heart)
- ♪ *Under the Greenwood Tree*, by Thomas Hardy
- ♪ *Dr. Faustus*, by Thomas Mann
- ♪ *Gutbucket Quest*, by Piers Anthony
- ♪ *Belcanto*, by Ann Patchett
- ♪ *The Eolian Harp*, by William Wordsworth (this one is actually a poem)

Lyric Challenge

Congratulations to **Kayt Emhart**, who was the first to respond to last issue's Lyric Challenge. Other correct responses were received from Andrew Fleming, Kevin Britton, and Mike Maksimchuk.

The name of the first person to email clef@mubetapsi.org with the correct musical artist and song title for the following lyrics will be printed in the next issue of *The Clef*.

**"They say that Confucius does
his crossword with a pen."**

M Q A Z Q V B X Z D I V B S Y X J G V K
W B L Y B X P J O P C M U V F K N N U M
F Q U Y A Q Z I T N T Y D I X H S Z P U
M A M U G N T R W J W U X K J E W O M J
X S N K J P S U R O T C U D N O C V G B
P C I I W O V C O S O A M V S N E L P Y
C F I S P N I D U W K W A H P L A S A N
V R X V R I W L Q G D Q I L S U A J H W
O W D S L I M M E T E G N R S I M H Z B
I O S T N J M N T S X K O V I V C N I P
A H O D N R B C W T T H I N V O J Y V J
G L T M N O M I C R N D S I N I C T D A
R Y S P I H N H W I K P S B P C V R G J
D O E H R C L T O N B U U M I E N R S I
A O C L M O R G I G O H C E H A N B N H
M U D C Y D H O M S T E R E I K T N B W
X E S S A R B J N K V Z E H O Z M E O X
B M C K S W Q C Y R F B P C A L R J Z P
I Z Q M Q P H E D R E M M Y S Z H G A O
C S Q S C I K C Y M W Q W H F R Z P L U

Words to find:

Alpha	Woodwind
Zeta	Brass
Mu	Strings
Nu	Percussion
Omicron	Voice
Alumni	Conductor

Word Unscramble

DEPELG _____

DELAPD _____

TREORBH _____

ARECPH _____

ITTNIOIAIN _____

ESTRTLE _____

NVONTCEION _____

TORRPE _____

MEGNIET _____

COSTMA _____

“Music should go right
through you, leave some
of itself inside you,
and take some of you
with it when it leaves.”
—Henry Threadgill

Calling all Chapter Newsletters:

Does your Chapter create and distribute a newsletter? If so, please send the NEOTC a copy.

If your chapter does not, consider making one. It's a great way to share Chapter fun with your alumni, as well as the rest of the Brotherhood. Let the NEOTC know if you would like guidance on how to begin.



National Editor of *The Clef*
1211 Ben Avon Street
Indiana, PA 15701

Wanted: Writers and Ideas

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

- ♪ Investigate and report on the stories behind Chapter mascots.
- ♪ Contribute photos from any Fraternity activities (please identify everyone in the photos).
- ♪ Write an “In Brief” article about the harp or lyre (see page 5, “In Brief ... the Pipes”).
- ♪ Write a recap of Mid-Year 2007.
- ♪ Write an opinion or informative piece about the music industry or music online.
- ♪ Share stories, poetry, artwork, or other creative pieces (doesn't have to be music-related to be considered).

If you want to write but are stumped for a topic, drop me a line and I'll get you set up. Likewise if you have an idea that you would like to see others to write about, let me know!

In Brotherhood and Music,
Megan Roble, National Editor of *The Clef* ♪

