

# THE CLEF

*Mu Beta Psi National Honorary Musical Fraternity*

[www.mubetapsi.org](http://www.mubetapsi.org)



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L to R: Erica Hall (Mu) and Zeta then-pledge Alex Aiello hang out on the steps of one of three music halls at UNC during Convention.

## Convention 2010 An UNConventional Success

*By Kate Capehart, National Editor of the Clef*

If there is one thing my Brothers at Mu know how to do, it's throw a party. And not just any party, but a weekend-long party complete with meetings, officer elections, some food, socializing, and lots and lots of Brothers. Of course I'm referring to Convention 2010, hosted by my home Chapter at my alma mater, UNC-Chapel Hill.

I was happy enough to return to my old stomping grounds, but Mu Chapter, a tiny but mightily dedicated group led by Logan Brackett as President and Convention Coordinator, made Convention weekend a real blast. The weather was sunny but cool, and the North Quad of campus saw several Brothers sprawled out on the grass or playing games of Frisbee in between meetings.

Unfortunately, the sailing was not completely smooth. On Friday there were a few crossed wires that resulted in some national committees not having space for their meetings. UNC is a very large school and is notorious for its onion-thick layers of bureaucracy, which hindered Mu Chapter's ability to secure enough spaces for every committee. But locked classroom doors didn't stop the Brothers of Mu Beta Psi. Nathaniel Kulyk, our National Historian, held his NHAC committee meeting in a hallway, with full representation.

The Alumni Association held an ice cream social Friday afternoon, which many Brothers attended. Prizes were awarded in a lighthearted game of Psi Trivia, and each Chapter's scrapbooks were perused and admired by all.

Friday's business wrapped up smoothly. The Brothers were all invited to a party hosted by Kurt Davies (Mu Chapter F'97) that night. There followed much merriment and a night-long game of shirt switching. Several shirts made the rounds more than once that night, but thankfully all shirts were returned to their rightful owners.

Saturday's Legislative Council took place in the Chapel Hill American Legion, and true to UNConventional form, a projector screen was jerry-rigged from sheets of poster board and double-sided tape. But it served its purpose well as





L to R: Sandra Ptolemy, Andrew Spina (Zeta) with the Zeta Sledge, and Matt Zander (Zeta) discuss important matters. The crab-hat presideth over all.

sented the “Price”less Memories Award to Sigma Chapter for their amazing scrapbook. Meghan Garvin, Sigma Chapter President, won the Ralph Daniel Brother of the Year Award. Then, in appreciation of Sigma Chapter’s near-sweep of the awards for this year and their successful induction into the Brotherhood as a Chapter, the collected Zetas (there were many!) got down on their knees and “Sunshined” Sigma President Garvin by singing a rousing chorus of “You Are My Sunshine” at the top of their lungs.

The evening ended with ceremony as the new officers were sworn in, humor as the motion to rename the BoT to “FAT BOTTOM GIRLS” failed (almost), and booty-shaking as Brothers danced the rest of the night away.

Sunday morning saw the departure of most of the Brothers, but some stayed around for brunch at Elmo’s Diner, a favorite among UNC students. Thankfully, everyone who attended Convention this year returned home safe and sound. My most hearty thanks go out to Mu Chapter for making Convention 2010 such a wonderful experience for everybody. 🎵

business was handled quickly and easily. The Alumni Association sold drinks, snacks and Mu Beta Psi paraphernalia during breaks, and hosted the successful Penny Jar War. After the new officers were elected, business until Banquet was concluded. Brothers had a couple of hours to return to their hotels, relax and get prettied up for the conclusion of UNConvention.

Brothers from all walks of Brotherhood attended the banquet, including some Mu alumni from back in the day. Jason Gloege (Beta class F’93), Mark Wienants (Epsilon class Sp’95), Lynne Manchester (also Sp’95), Alicia Kaplan (Zeta class F’95), and Kurt Davies (Kappa class F’97) mingled with Mu’s newest Brothers at the time, part of the Alpha Theta class of Fall 2009. The meal of traditional Southern dishes and delicious barbecue, served in the (one, only and best) eastern Carolina style, brought not just Mu Brothers together, but Brothers from all Chapters. After the Brothers had finished their meals, the National Historian pre-



L to R: Natasha Nowlen (Alpha), Liz Baldrige (Alpha) and David Ivy (Alpha), chillax between meetings.

# National President Report

*By Garrett Cooperman, NP*

Brothers,

I hope the spring season is upon you in fine form – I know our Chapters experienced a role-reversal with respect to the weather this winter. Hopefully, as the weather improves, so will the frequency of inter-Chapter travel. Consider this a shameless plug: Go see each other! It's so much fun to spend some time with Brothers we don't see all that often. Seize the opportunity (and the budgeted funds set aside for that very opportunity)!

In NEC news, we have been a busy body for the past few months. Since our last Clef report, we put forth a few important constitutional amendments, several of which were approved at Convention and one of which will be up for a vote shortly. Our Skeletal Bylaws Committee submitted a fully amended, finally helpful document now up for approval by the Board of Trustees. We were sad to see Sarah Guthrie depart from her post as NVPE, but glad that she could leave on such a high note; Sarah saw three new Chapters to completion in as many years, and worked throughout her tenure to make the office more tenable. And now we welcome Andy Stephens to the NEC as the new NVPE, along with all of his skills and goals for the expansion committee.

It's always nice to enjoy that burst of productivity that follows Convention. This year, that burst has seemed to extend further and last a little longer than last year – a trend I'd like to keep building on in the future. If we can continue our motivation, we will overcome, preemptively, results from missed meetings and submission deadlines. Let's keep our heads up!

The biggest bit of news since Convention is that the National Scholarship Program now has a committee of the same title (NSPC, for short). This committee, which I will head with NT Staten and VC-BOT Reamer serving in ex-officio advisory roles, will consist of one voting representative from each Chapter. These dedicated Brothers will work to create a policy for the National Scholarship Program, allowing us to, eventually, begin issuing said scholarship to shining applicants. This program will help the National Organization further our purposes of honoring men and women who devote themselves to music and advancing music as an educational subject.

In the next year, I hope to also work diligently with

the other officers in completing their goals for their offices and committees. I'd like to continue the trend of increasing communication amongst the Brotherhood. I've seen an increase in posts to the Intranet which I really like, and if I could quantify the advancement of inter-Chapter communication through other lines, I believe we would note a marked increase there, too. Keep it up! We're only as *National* an organization as we make us by enjoying each other's company despite the distance between us.

So I leave you with 5 things I loved from this past half-year:

- 1) Alumni Association's Brotherhood music CDs
  - 2) Intranet thread titled, "You know you're a Mu Beta Psi Brother when..."
  - 3) Mu Chapter's dedication
  - 4) Sigma at SLU is now a Chapter full of incredible Brothers
  - 5) This quote: "If music is the soul of life, then Mu Beta Psi is like chicken soup."
- In Brotherhood always!🎵

# National Vice President of Chapter Maintenance Report

*By Sarah Flourance, NVPCM*

Hello Brothers! I hope this Clef finds everybody well after Convention! As always, Convention was a great time. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Mu Chapter for putting so much effort into planning this year's Convention and making it run so smoothly. I'm sure by this point everyone has gone through their fair share of Convention withdrawal.

Over the past couple of months, the NCCM has been discussing ways to potentially repair and improve any loss of communication among our Chapters. Our consistent and productive communication is important in maintaining and improving the strength of all our Chapters, and in turn the National Brotherhood at large. The NCCM has adopted and has been working out the kinks of a new Chapter communication tree, pairing Chapter with Chapter to communicate at the minimum of twice a month. Although this is simply a start in improving consistent communication on the national level, I feel it is important for Chapters to recognize its importance and truly consider ways they can further our goals as a Fraternity.

As I mentioned at Convention, I'm happy to report

that many of our previously struggling Chapters are currently striving toward fixing their dilemmas, and have already become stronger Chapters since these problems have been discovered. I sincerely hope that with the NCCM's continued help and support of the Brotherhood at large, that these Chapters will continue along a path of improvement, instead of stagnation and decline.

As Chapters gear up for the end of semester, it is important to take steps to make sure your Chapter does not lose sight of its goals or path over the summer through officer turnover and loss of communication due to distance. In preparation, I encourage any Brothers to go visit other Brothers over the summer! Traveling is a great way to maintain motivation in Brotherhood-related activities so Chapters don't spend a couple of months in the beginning of the year picking up the fallen pieces from the summer. While you still have a little while left before the semester comes to a close, plan for your summers now and figure out how your Brotherhood will maintain its goals over the summer break. Use your break for productivity and lining things up for the school year instead of hindering your progress and having to use extra time to play catch-up. If anyone is looking for great ideas to help keep summer communication flowing and Fraternity motivation up, I would love to help!

Lastly, congratulations to all of our newest Brothers throughout the Fraternity. I look forward to see you all blossom into fantastic Brothers. I hope each one of you takes careful thought in the part you can play in this Brotherhood, and take advantage of its many resources. Welcome aboard to the Mu Beta Psi! To everyone else—good luck on your finals and enjoy your summer breaks! 🎵



## National Vice President of Expansion Report

By Andy Stephens, NVPE

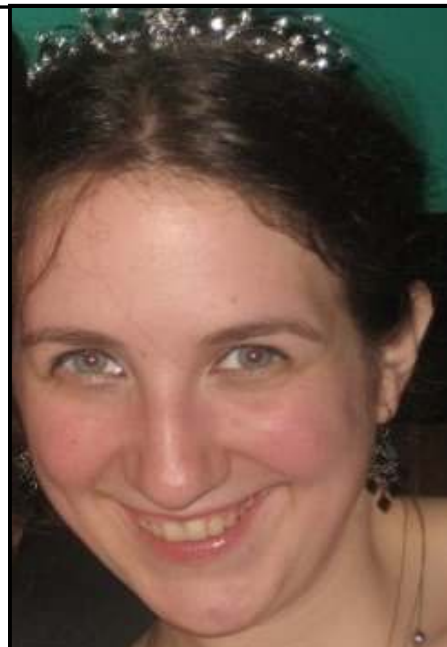


Greetings Brothers! My name is Andy Stephens and I'm the new National Vice President of Expansion. For those who don't know me well, I'm a Zeta alumnus (pledged fall '02), and have been involved with expansion since 2005 as a Big Brother, a host Pledgemaster and as the AA rep to the National Expansion Committee (NCE).

Despite not having enough support at Marist College to proceed, we're still working with Brothers on potential colonies in New York, Michigan and Minnesota. If you know of an interested student or group, please contact me! To support those efforts should they come to fruition, we've been creating a set of handbooks for colonists and for host Pledgemasters, containing helpful hints, timelines and sample tests, as well as addressing common issues that have scuttled colonies in the past. The Skeletal Bylaws Committee created a new set of bylaws that we can give to colonies, and these are a vast upgrade over the set we had used until now. Kevin Britton has agreed to help us redo the Expansion website. This will be the new home of the handbooks, as well as a place to advertise to prospective colonists and advisors.

We have weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 8:30 PM Eastern time (7:30 Central) in the Brothers' Intranet chat room until the end of this term. Any Brother is welcome to attend, and I hope to see you there! 🎵

## Congratulations to Chrissy Fleming, our acting National Secretary for the next year!



## National Treasurer Report

*By Jen Staten, NT*

Brothers,

This year has at times seemed gruelingly slow, and yet, we have made progress financially. Here is a summary of what we have accomplished thus far.

Though the journey to obtain tax-exemption has been rocky, over the last four months, we made some progress by obtaining most of the information from the collegiate Chapters required for the IRS application. The previously undesignated funds in our investment account was another roadblock, keeping us from being able to complete our application, but was resolved by designating this money as our new Scholarship Fund. In the coming days you will hear about a seconded motion from the NEC to amend the National Constitution in regards to the distribution of assets upon dissolution of the Fraternity. This is the very last bit of cleanup business that needs to be accomplished before the IRS application can be submitted. I encourage everyone to look at the implications of the change and discuss in your Chapters.

While the goal of liability insurance has been completed for several years, I believe that it is important to point out that, for the first time since obtaining liability insurance, we can now fully fund the premium in the same year (previous years were subsidized through much-appreciated donations from the Alumni Association). In addition to paying the premium, we also have a surplus in the fund that will enable us to pay for at least one deductible, possibly two to three, by the end of this year.

We held our first national fundraiser for the national Scholarship Fund during Convention 2010. It was quite successful, raising more than \$400 in less than two days; hopefully it will take place again at next year's Convention.

Also at Convention, the NFC, NEC, and BoT approved two changes to the National Finance Policy. The first change was to rectify an oversight in the new finance policy that went into effect last July. The change added language clarifying how non-budgeted disbursements are made from the General and Liability Funds. The second change redefines the onset of national active status to the receipt of an Active Brothers List, National Dues, and all outstanding fines.

A last Convention item was a workshop I hosted with the National Vice-President for Chapter Maintenance. The workshop was designed to give the Chapters a set of physical tools to help them better organize and maintain their internal records. I assembled file boxes for each of the Chapters containing copies of policies, National forms, and other useful information. It is our hope that these tools will enable the Chapters to function more efficiently, and thus to free up their time for more important activities than paperwork.

Please be aware that I have issued many more fines to Chapters this year than last – 34 so far this year compared to just 2 issued last year. While the money from fines does go to a worthy cause (our newly designated Scholarship Fund), I would rather see the Chapter's money be put toward accomplishing Chapter goals. Please strive to turn in submissions on time, so that I won't be forced to issue as many fines in the coming year.

As it has been quite a long time since new jewelry items were created, one future goal the NFC will be working on this year is designing and acquiring new jewelry items. If you have design or product ideas, please contact your Chapter Treasurer, NFC representative, or me.

If you have an interest in becoming National Treasurer, Chapter Treasurer, or are just interested in how Fraternity money is spent, I urge you to come to a National Finance Committee meeting, held every month in the Mu Beta Psi chat room, or you can contact me by e-mail or phone.🎵

## National Editor of the Clef Report

By Kate Capehart, NEOTC

Brethren,

Welcome to my third issue of *The Clef* as your NEOTC. I would like to thank all of you for re-electing me for another term. I have big plans as far as *The Clef* goes.

Most of you have been privy to the discussion about selling advertisements to be published in *The Clef*. I have held two informal discussions in the Intranet chat room, speaking to individual Brothers and officers, and seeking out people within the Fraternity with more knowledge of advertising than me. So far, opinion on this issue is pretty polarized. I have posted a discussion topic in the Intranet forums with some points on which I would like feedback. If you're feeling froggy, go check it out and post your thoughts. The more feedback I have, the clearer my picture of the Brotherhood's opinion will be.

Nextly, I would like to thank, congratulate, hug, tackle and generally express my utmost joy and gratitude to my fellow Mu Brothers for their fantastic job with UNCon 2010. I would have enjoyed being back at my alma mater anyway, but the Mus gave me the best gift I have ever gotten from this Fraternity, save for my wonderful fiancé. I was welcomed home by my Chapter, got to see Sigma Chapter represented at Convention for the first time, and got to involve myself fully for the first time as a National Officer. There was a sense of fun even in the heckled flurry of Convention to-dos, and bless his heart, Logan Brackett brought it all together with nary a nervous breakdown.

Congratulations, Mu. I am proud of my home Chapter.

I am sure all of you, at least the MALs and the National Officers, are aware of the strict deadline I was enforcing this time around. I do not mean to punish any one person, but I have been very frustrated by how some Brothers have been treating the deadline for submissions to *The Clef* as just a suggestion and not an actual deadline. Just because I don't fine an officer or a Chapter does not mean the deadline is any less important. So from now on, the deadline will be clearly stated at least a month in advance; I will remind you frequently. But the deadline will also be strictly enforced. MALs, please make sure I have your most current email address and that you are checking your

email. Also, I know you hear this often enough, but *please do not wait until the last minute* to complete your reports. It is this trap that so many collegiate Brothers so easily fall into that has caused *The Clef* to be as sparse as it is this semester.

Stay tuned for more news from me in the upcoming weeks as I continue to work on a stand-alone website for *The Clef*! 🎵

## National Historian Report

By Nathaniel Kulyk, NH

Brothers,

At the 2010 National Convention, the National History and Archives Committee had a very productive meeting. First, an amendment to the NHAC Policy Manual was discussed and approved unanimously. The purpose of the amendment is to address concerns from recent years regarding inappropriate content in the scrapbooks that are submitted for the "Price"less Memories Award. The amendment allows for the disqualification of any scrapbook determined to contain inappropriate content by a simple majority of the judges. The amendment also offers definitions of what is considered to be inappropriate. This amendment was also approved unanimously by the National Executive Committee. Chapters are encouraged to review the Policy Manual for these new guidelines when preparing for the competition in the future. Second, the NHAC also approved a revised and updated copy of the Prospectus, which was also approved by the NEC. This new Prospectus includes an overview of the Fraternity, listings of all previous National Officers and Permanent Board Members, a list of all current and inactive Chapters, and the locations, dates, and hosts of all previous National Conventions.

The committee also held discussions regarding the Oral History Project and its progress. I am pleased to report that we are off to a good start. To date, approximately twenty Brothers have responded and I would like to encourage everyone to participate. While the project is voluntary, it is a great opportunity for Brothers to share their past experiences and memorable moments during their active years in Mu Beta Psi and allows everyone to have their voice added to the Fraternity Archives. The oral history project is accessible through the Alumni Association website.

Over the course of the past year, I have made some



progress with the hard-copy portions of our Archives. The majority of our documents are now stored in envelopes, to allow for extra protection, and many of our oldest records are in protective sleeves, which will ensure their longevity. I have also started to scan some of our oldest documents into .jpeg files to ensure that we have a backup image of them, something I will continue to do during the upcoming year. Additionally, I have had the opportunity to assist several Brothers with research projects, including looking for financial records of the Alumni Association to help create a budgetary timeline, as well as information related to the short life of Eta Chapter at the Virginia Military Institute. There were also some other small miscellaneous research requests. All Brothers are encouraged to contact me with questions, should they ever been in need of some research assistance. I promise that I will do my best to help out in any way.

Finally, I would like to take a quick moment to congratulate Sigma Chapter for winning the "Price" less Memories Scrapbook Competition. For the second time in three years, a brand new Chapter has taken the banner home with them (Pi Chapter won with their first scrapbook in 2008).

I look forward to working with everyone in the coming year!🎵

Adam Gardner (Omicron Alum) poses outside at UNConvention with Omicron's Chapter mascot, Moo the Albino Black-sheep. Mu Chapter and Omicron Chapter gave each other their mascots, and so gave their mascots each others' Chapter names. Get it?



## National Information Technology Committee Report

*By Kevin Britton, C-NITC*

At its Convention meeting, the NITC reviewed the use of "User Manager" to manage active Brother lists and National Committee assignments. "User Manager" is accessible to all Chapter MALs, NITC reps, Chapter Presidents, and National Officers. Instructions for how to use this important tool can be found in the Intranet Knowledgebase, under **Committee Docs/NITC Documents**.

The Committee also discussed ways to manage our Social Networking identity going forward. While the committee overwhelmingly felt that registering Mu Beta Psi on additional social networking sites should require official sanction prior to being undertaken, the consensus was that a structure for this would need to be worked out with the BOT Standards Advisor. This will be addressed in the weeks and months to come.

In the meantime, it bears repeating that items you post to a social networking site, even under your personal account, become a permanent record. In many cases, these profiles are visible to a wide variety of people -- Brothers, non-Brothers, prospective members, prospective employers, admissions officers, and in some cases, even your grandparents! Think before you post. Protect your reputation, and ours.🎵



## Zeta Chapter Report

*By Bill Grant, Zeta MAL*

Zeta chapter has been busy over the past months! We've continued our strong tradition of ushering for fine arts events at the Rosza Center, Club Indigo, and the McArdle Box Theater. In February, we sponsored Brother Gary Tunstall, a local musician, and used the money raised to fund the John B. McInnes pep band scholarship. Over Winter Carnival 2010 (Games We Know Captured in Snow) Zeta participated in many events including Curling, Human Bowling, Snow Volleyball, and Snow Statue Construction.

Just after Convention, we welcomed the Straight Up F Double-Sharp's pledge class to the Fraternity, with 3 new Brothers (Lindsey Johns, Drew Siemen, and Alex Aiello), under the guidance of Pledgemaster Robert D. Smith, and Assistant Pledgemaster Simon Mused. We were happy to be joined by Alex Dimitrijeski, Nick Rosencrans, Andrew Stephens (Zeta Alumnus), Laura Kelland (Nu Alumna), Adam Gardner (Omicron), Tilara Lanzot, Kevin Tang, and Chris Ciarello (Pi), for our initiations!

We are looking forward to our Spring Potluck where we will honor our spring graduates, Shawna Ivancic, Haley Vingsness, Robert D. Smith, and Scott Nelson. FINALLY, the snow total for Houghton, MI this year stands at 171 in! 🎵

## Mu Chapter Report

*By Jess Bowerman, Mu MAL*

Mu Chapter has been very busy this semester. We started off the semester debating on if it would be wise to have a pledge season and hold Convention at the same time. We decided to have a pledge season and we have two wonderful pledges, Stephanie Haynes and Rebekah MacDonald, who were initiated on April 1, 2010 (no joke) after the completion of the pledging process. Besides having a full pledge season, we were also very busy putting the finishing touches on UNConvention 2010, which went very well. All of us at Mu were excited to host and we hope that everyone had a great time!

Since Convention we have been helping our pledges on their journey to Brotherhood and then welcoming them into the Fraternity. We have also volunteered at a few a capella concerts throughout the semester selling tickets and ushering. 🎵

## Nu Chapter Report

*By Josh Farrell, Nu MAL*

We had a very exciting fall semester here at Oswego in 2009! The Alpha Eta pledge class brought us five new Brothers: Joshua "YOSHI" Farrell, Amber "MRS. LOVETT" Archambo, Adam "FRANK-N-FURTER" Donovan, Alex "UROK" Resila and Beth "NEART-I-AMHRÁN" Schermerhorn. We spent the rest of the fall semester working on revamping our bylaws, which have finally been finished this spring. At the end of the semester we said goodbye to our two graduating seniors: Brothers Courtney Wright and Caitlin Garlach. Courtney got married to Karl Crump, a non-Brother, shortly after graduation and is now living in Texas. As we welcome 2010, we also welcome the Alpha Theta pledge class and its four pledges: Rachel Robillard, Erin McIntyre, Amanda Nargi and Joelle Service. They've been doing great so far!

In March we had our annual Collage concert to help support the Music Department Excellence Fund which featured many different Brothers. We have also ushered many other concerts and performances for the music department in both the fall and spring semesters. Several Brothers and a couple of the pledges helped Jewish Brothers Garrett Cooperman and Scott Silver celebrate Passover with the first ever "Mu Beta Pseder" on March 29<sup>th</sup>. It was a lot of fun! We had a basket raffle at our annual Friends and Family weekend concert, which did well. However, we did not have much luck with our Bowling fundraiser as we didn't end up raising any money, but we hope to try again this semester!

We're extremely excited about holding Convention in the spring and we hope to see everyone up in Oz! *Mu Beta Psi, we be Nu 'cause we're fly... 🎵*

"When you work you are a flute through whose heart the whispering of the hours turns to music. Which of you would be a reed, dumb and silent, when all else sings together in unison?"

~ Kahlil Gibran

## Pi Chapter Report

By Tiara Lanzot, Zeta MAL

Pi would like to thank Mu chapter and all Brothers for a wonderful Convention. This year started off as an unknown for many Brothers at this chapter since it was the first in recent memory, and the first time since merging with Mu Beta Psi, that we have had a complete changeover in our executive board and other officers. Even with the uncertainty, Pi chapter has flourished, improving connections with national chapters and increasing in size. We now have close to 30 actives and a pledge class of 7 going through the process right now. Their expected initiation date is April 18<sup>th</sup>.

We have a couple of service events lined up, leading off with Relay for Life. Elections will be happening at the end of April and a whole new e-board will be coming in to run this Chapter. I would like to wish all of them luck, as well as all other Chapters, new Brothers and new National Officers. 🎵

## Sigma Chapter Report

By Austin Giles, Sigma MAL

Woot woot for Sigma Chapter's first report in *The Clef*! As you know, Sigma Chapter is Mu Beta Psi's newest Chapter and first Chapter west of the Mississippi River. 10 points for expansion! We started out with 14 music-loving colonists and after our first independent initiation on March 26th, we have blossomed to a grand total of 24 Brothers.

Events we have taken part in since our inception include a Homecoming performance, some caroling across campus and in a nursing home, some singing at a Save our Soldiers event, and a bit of face time during Atlas Week, our school's international cultural diversity week. Two of our seniors (Anne Lischwe and Max von Schlehenried) have given their capstone presentations and Sigma President Meghan Garvin gave a splendid Senior Recital on April 10th. To come is our performance at Relay for Life and our Movie Song Showcase featuring each of our 24 Brothers.

Finally, a thanks to Mu Chapter for warmly welcoming our three representatives at Convention. We look forward to sending more to next year's in Oswego! 🎵

The Zetas love Sigma President Meghan Garvin so much that they got down on one knee and sang a chorus of "You Are My Sunshine" in her honor at Convention this year.



## Alumni Association Report

By Katharine Evaul, AA Secretary

The Alumni Association had a wonderful time at UN-Convention! We were excited to see so many Brothers make the trek to North Carolina. We were thrilled to receive excellent candidates for our Ralph Daniel Brother of the Year award and this year it went to Meghan Garvin of Sigma Chapter. Also at our Convention meeting we determined that Mid-Year will be the weekend of August 13-15th in Baltimore, MD. All Brothers and their families are welcome. The Gathering committee is working to make sure there will be fun activities for those not in the meeting. All of the wonderful items that were for sale at Convention will also be available for sale at Mid-Year!

Lastly, please remember that Chapter dues are waived for your first year active in AA and also any money donated to the AA is tax deductible! 🎵



# Coheed and Cambria Rock Syracuse

By Garrett Cooperman, Nu/AA

I attended the Coheed & Cambria concert at the Westcott Theater in Syracuse, NY on Wednesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 2010 with Brothers Kate Capehart (N), and Amanda Sawyer (Nu alumna), as well as my sister, my cousin, and a good friend. My group followed me to the front row early in the show. We casually bopped to the music as the opening act, Earl Greyhound of Brooklyn, NY, performed some fun fusion of '70s and '00s rock. It was a good act and good music.

But the second that Coheed & Cambria struck the first chord of "The Broken," the first single off their upcoming album *Year of the Black Rainbow*, the crowd was galvanized into the most enthusiastic enjoyment of music I've ever seen. They RUSHED to the front. We were thrust into immobility, pressed against the front railing by the electrified fans. Claudio Sanchez, lyricist, lead vocalist, and guitarist, lost himself in the music as his fingers obeyed the call of the rhythm in the anthemic opener. Travis Stever, guitarist and backing vocalist, smiled nearly the entire time, clearly loving the music he was playing.



Coheed and Cambria lead singer, lead guitarist and creative genius, Claudio Sanchez, rips into a guitar solo with Michael Todd in the background during the concert in Syracuse.

This is not a talkative band. Michael Todd, bassist, made two of only three short speeches to the audience. They let their music do the talking. The set-list included music from all four of their existing albums and a few tracks from *Year of the Black Rainbow*. "A Favor House Atlantic," their most popular single, saw the entire venue dancing to the hook-friendly beat and singing along with Claudio's characteristic high tenor. In all, the show was incredible. There was never a half-second where the audience was not completely engaged.

Admittedly, it seemed almost unfair for me to be writing this review, if only because I have a fascination-bordering-on-obsession with the band. I could say that it's because Coheed ignores, through their music, the barriers between subgenres in rock music. I could blame it on the fact that their music represents an innovation in literature, a multimedia amalgam of narrative intertextuality. But I won't, because now I can attribute it equally to their ability to put on one hell of a show. 🎵



## Penny Jar War Results

*By Jen Staten, National Secretary*

During Convention 2010 at UNC, Mu Beta Psi held its first national fundraiser for the National Scholarship Fund. In a fierce battle between Chapters, Brothers deposited change into jars from each Chapter. Each penny counted as a positive point and each silver coin or bill counted its face value in negative points. After 36 hours of competition, \$433.26 was raised for the Scholarship Fund and winners were declared and awarded prizes at the banquet. Congratulations to Mu Chapter in first place, Omicron Chapter in second place, and the Alumni Association in third. Thanks to all of the volunteers who quickly and accurately counted large sums of change (right down to the very last penny), as well as the NFC representatives who were the driving force behind change collection and organization in their Chapters. I hope that we continue this fundraiser in Oswego next year. 🎵



The infamous jars, guarded by Phil Staten (Omicron alum) and Ben Griffeth (Kappa alum)

## THE HISTORIAN'S CORNER

*By Nathaniel Kulyk, National Historian*

### "I move to rename the Board of Trustees..."

For those Brothers who have never been to a National Convention, there exists a tradition that dates back to 1996 to re-name the Board of Trustees. While the new name suggestion is often lengthy and doesn't make a great deal of sense, the acronym tends to be hilarious and gets rounds of laughter and applause by all Brothers present. Once the motion to re-name has been moved and seconded, members of the Legislative Counsel then usually split their vote to cause a tie, allowing the newly elected (or re-elected) National President to cast the tie-breaking vote in the negative....hopefully. What follows is a list of the proposed names/acronyms to date:

1996: Righteously Ordained Board of Trustees (**ROBOT**)

1997: Rambunctiously Obtuse Board of Trustees (**ROBOT**)

1998: Ridiculously Overworked Board of Trustees (**ROBOT**)

1999: Relentlessly Obsessed Board of Trustees (**ROBOT**)

2000-2003: No Record in the Minutes of a Motion being made.

2004: Mis-Represented Retired Orgasmless Board of Trustee Officers (**MR ROBOTO**)

2005: Laudable Infrastructure of the Knowledgeable Experienced Board of Trustees, Thee All Hail (**LIKE BOT-TAH**)

2006: Incredibly Loopy Individuals Emulating Kind Benevolence In General: Board of Trustees, Sweet! (**I LIEK BIG BOTS**)

2007: Keeping Individuals Serving Successfully Many Years, [the] Board of Trustees (**KISS MY BOT**). This name was friendlied to add "To Our Members," making the acronym **KISS MY BOTTOM**.

2008: Delightfully Orthodox, Impressively Nuanced, Tremendously Helpful Entity: Board of Trustees (**DOIN THE BOT**)

2009: Board of Trustees Team of Mostly Fanatical Eurdites Executing Daily Exercises of Required Service (**BOTTOM FEEDERS**)

2010: Fraternally Attentive and Tenacious Boys of the Third Odyssey Music Group in Rewarded Length of Service (**FAT BOTTOM GIRLS**)



## Welcome New Brothers!

### Zeta

Alex Aiello  
Lindsey Johns  
Drew Siemen

### Mu

Stephanie Haynes  
Rebekah MacDonald

### Sigma

Lowell Daniels  
Hannah Dussold  
Andrew Kalthoff  
Hilary Korabik  
Jenny Liu  
Anu Pulikkan  
Libby Rogers  
Steve Siegner  
Gretchen Weber

## Announcements and Reminders

- ♪ Alumni Association's Mid-Year meeting will be held August 13th-15th in Baltimore, MD. Contact Beth Bankowski (ebankows@gmail.com) for more information.
- ♪ Anyone may request a hard copy of *The Clef* by contacting the editor (SheRa.kdc@gmail.com).
- ♪ Mu Beta Psi letters, letter templates and other items (key pins, *Hail the Spirit* magnets, bumper stickers, etc.) are on sale through the Alumni Association! Please contact Jen Staten (Jennifer.ellen.rose@gmail.com) for more information and to place your order!
- ♪ Check out the intranet discussion forums for topics relating to Convention, *The Clef*, the National Scholarship Committee, and important new pieces of information that affect us all!

## Brotherly News

### Engagements

Stephanie Bernat (N, Sp'06) to Travis Smith; the wedding is planned for Oct 2010  
Garrett Cooperman (N, Sp'07 "Jewethius") to Kate Capehart (M, Sp'07 "She-Ra")  
Andrew Spina (Z, F'03) to Sandra Ptolemy

### New Arrivals

Claire Emily Britton (6lb 12oz), December 18, 2009 to Kevin Britton (Z, F'94 "Dischords") and Jodi (Cianek)Britton (Z, F'95 "Three Penny Opera").



Kate Capehart (Mu alum) and  
Garrett Cooperman (Nu/AA)

# A-Mu-sements

## Lyric Challenge

Congratulations to **Bryan Sebeck**, who answered last issue's lyric challenge correctly! Answers are printed below.

This Lyric Challenge works a bit differently. Below are interpretations of song lyrics that are commonly confused for the correct versions. The first person to email the NEOTC with the correct lyrics to the song will be printed in the next issue.

"Dirty deeds and they're done with sheep." AC/DC

"I won't poke my eyes out and surrender." Dido

"I can see you. Your breasts keep shining in the sun." Don Henley

"Jealousy turning snakes into the sea." The Killers

"It's not fair to deny me or this cross-eyed bear that you gave to me." Alanis Morissette

The correct answers to last issue's Challenge:  
"I'm gone to *Carolina* in my mind."— "Carolina in my mind", James Taylor

"Sweet home *Alabama*, where the skies are so blue"—  
"Sweet Home Alabama", Lynyrd Skynyrd

"Although we had no *money*, I was rich as could be in my *coat* of many colors my momma made for me."—  
"Coat of Many Colors", Dolly Parton

"I am a man of constant *sorrow*; I've seen *troubles* all my days."— "Man of Constant Sorrow", orig. by Dick Burnett, most recently featured on *O Brother Where Art Thou* (2000).



# A-mu-sements

## Psi-doku

The rules of Psi-doku are surprisingly simple.

Every column, row, and 3×3 square must contain the symbols below exactly once.

A   Z   M   N   O   Π   P   Σ   AA  
1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9

		O			Z			
	P						M	
				Π				AA
	N	AA	Σ					
Z								P
					O	A	Π	
Π				M				
	AA						O	
			A			Σ		

Psi-Doku  
was sub-  
mitted by  
Jen Staten.

**This issue of the Clef was brought to you by:**

- ♪ The NEOTC's obsession with The Legally Blonde Broadway soundtrack
- ♪ Diet Pepsi
- ♪ Spring sunshine
- ♪ Microsoft Publisher (when it worked)
- ♪ You people!
- ♪ Enya (not really)
- ♪ The word "Quockerwodger".

***"Music is an out-  
burst of the soul."***

***~Frederick Delius***

### **Calling all Chapter Newsletters!**

**Does your Chapter create and distribute a newsletter?** If so, please send a (digital or hard) copy to your friendly neighborhood NEOTC.

If your Chapter doesn't make one, give it some thought. Even if it's just one or two pages, it's an easy way to share Brotherhood and fun with your alumni and advisors as well as the rest of the Brotherhood. I am also planning to devote a section of the new Clef website to all Chapter newsletters! 🎵



**National Editor of *The Clef***  
20 E. Van Buren St.  
Oswego, NY 13126

## **Writers and Ideas Needed!**

Contact me if you want to:

- 🎵 **Share** short fiction, poetry, artwork or other creative works (they don't have to be music-related).
- 🎵 **Submit** new games, activities or humorous tidbits for the A-Mu-sements section
- 🎵 **Contribute** photos from Fraternity or Chapter events (please ID everyone in the photo).
- 🎵 **Report** on the Alumni Association Mid-Year celebration in Baltimore.
- 🎵 **Write** an opinion piece on the benefits/detriments of selling advertising space in *The Clef*.

If you would like to contribute but don't know what to write, contact me (SheRa.kdc@gmail.com) and we'll brainstorm. Also, if you have a brilliant idea for an article, theme or other piece, send it my way!

In Brotherhood, Music and Love,  
Kate Capehart, National Editor of the Clef 🎵

