

## The Clef



The Clef is published twice a year by Mu Beta Psi, National Honorary Musical Fraternity.



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Learn more about our fraternity at www.mubetapsi.org.

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"We hope this publication will be an inspiration for active members to continue carrying on the objectives of Mu Beta Psi and will provide an incentive for inactive members and alumni to take a renewed effort in our organization"

-Ted Halverson, first National Editor of The Clef.

## Chrissy's Corner

Chrissy Fleming, National President Alumni Association / Mu Chapter



elcome back! Whether you are still in school or long-graduated, fall is always a good time to get back to work, refocus, and drink copious amounts of apple cider. You will see in the following reports that our national officers and committee chairs have been very hard at work over the summer: we have digitized most of our submission and report forms, instituted automated reminders for these submissions, reopened the Psi Pstore, expanded the National Archives, reviewed our entire election process for national officers, interviewed illustrious Brothers for our Centennial Stories project, and distributed application forms for our first-ever national scholarship....and all of that is on top of everyone's job descriptions! I am

excited to have the National Executive Committee meeting monthly, with a full agenda at every meeting. So far, the participation from chapter Members-at-Large and officers alike has been really encouraging.

While I'm very proud of our accomplishments as a national organization, our work is just beginning. This fall, we will be focusing even more on supporting the chapters and helping them grow. We will take a good, hard look at our prospects for growth, with ongoing discussions about recruitment and diversity of our Brotherhood, as well as a post mortem analysis of our SUNY Oneonta colonization attempt. We will also be introducing policy changes that will modernize and streamline how we run as an organization. It is also time to begin planning the content of our annual National Convention—keep an eye out for some pretty exciting changes.

Most of all, I want to improve my own communication with the Brotherhood so that you are all aware of the excellent work that your fellow Brothers are doing. I will be instituting regular office hours and sending out more reports via the national list and Facebook. I am always available for a chat or a question, so please don't hesitate to reach-out!







## **VP of Chapter Expansion**

Andy Bronson, National Vice President of Expansion Alumni Association / Nu Chapter



hile there is no active colonization currently going on, there are still plenty of goals I have for this year. The biggest priority is to examine the policies governing the NCE and our colonization procedures to see if they can be updated to provide better outlines for communication with

an interested group. In addition, I have continued to reach out to potentially interested schools as a part of a cold contacting campaign and will be working closely with NVPCM Booms and NEOTC Holbrook to create new brochures that can be sent out to prospective institutions.

I thank you all for your continued support, and I look

forward to the opportunities this new academic year brings.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning how to start a chapter of Mu Beta Psi at your school, visit our website or email our National Vice President of Expansion for more details.

http://mubetapsi.org/expansion/nvpe@mubetapsi.org

In Brotherhood, Andy Bronson ₹



Andy Bronson holding the Zeta Sledge.

## **VP of Chapter Maintenance**

Danielle Booms, National Vice President of Chapter Maintenance Alumni Association / Zeta Chapter



reetings from the desk of the National Vice President of Chapter Maintenance (NVPCM)! I want to take this opportunity to explain who I am and what I do. For those who don't know me, I pledged at Zeta Chapter in the fall of 2010 and joined the Alumni Association in 2014 after graduation. I have served as the NVPCM since my election in April of this year. In my role as NVPCM, I work closely with our National Committee on Chapter Maintenance (NCCM), which is comprised of one representative from each active chapter. My primary function is to monitor the health of each chapter as well as to provide support when necessary. This support can be as simple as providing a little bit of advice, and can be as in-depth as traveling to a chapter in a time of need. However, support comes in many forms and, I don't work alone. I like to encourage my NCCM to work together to solve problems, and I rely on the experiences of other Brothers to help make the NCCM a success.

During the summer months, the NCCM had a few meetings to talk about chapter maintenance topics, including succession planning and Brother's Court. I also created a Robert's Rules refresher post which can be found on the Intranet. One task that I am

behind on is to make connections with staff that oversee either Greek Life or Student Organizations, depending on which category each chapter falls under. I have collected contact information for these individuals and held a successful meeting with the head of Greek Life at Nu Chapter. I plan to continue to hold these meetings through the course of the semester. I will also begin to institute Google Hangout "office hours" where anyone can come chat with me about whatever might be on their minds.

Last but not least, I have room in my budget to make a couple of chapter visits! My goal is to visit Nu and Omicron, and I'm very excited to be able to do so!

I hope everyone has had a fantastic start to the semester, and I can't wait to work with you all in the coming months! Remember, I'm just a phone call or email away:

Email: maintenance@mubetapsi.org

Phone: (517) 395-9667



Danielle Booms, Katelynne Hendrick, and Jacqueline Harms.

## National Treasurer

Tyler Jense<mark>n, Nati</mark>onal Treasurer Alumni Assoc<mark>iatio</mark>n / Zeta Chapter



ime sure flies when you're having fun! The last publication came around the start of my shortened term as NT. At this point in time, the position is back to working order (beyond a few loose ends that I'm tying up right now)! With the time I have remaining, I plan to work with the reps and promote accountability on the local and national levels. I have started a practice I call 1-on-1s with each Chapter to give me a chance to meet with each rep individually. Originally it was a way for me to familiarize myself with each Chapter's financial practices, but also a chance to get to know my committee members personally! Besides the 1-on-1s I have been looking into implementing the financial software that Nationals uses at the Chapter level. There are so many benefits to using this

software and would give those interested in running for NT a chance to familiarize themselves with the software before jumping into the role.

Probably the biggest piece of news is that the Psi Pstore is online again! I built a spreadsheet to track the store's inventory as well as indicate when merchandise needs to be reordered. I plan to work more with it to see what I can do to help improve it, including new ideas for merchandise that can sold! Contact me if you have any merchandise ideas! The next NFC meeting will be sometime in mid/late October. I hope to discuss how fall submissions went, talk about our liability premium perks, accountability, and a few motions. I am always happy to chat with people so feel free to hit me up!

I wanna give a HUGE shout out to my reps: Ariana (Alpha), Christian (Zeta), Emily (Nu), Maggie & Maddie (Omicron), Keri (Pi), Keylyn (Rho), Brian (Tau), and Ryan (AA) for their exceptional effort so far this year. They have made this process one worth experiencing, and I look forward to what we can accomplish over the course of the rest of the year!



Tyler Jensen with Little Brother Hannah Kowalewsky.

### INTER-CHAPTER TRAVEL PROGRAM

All active Brothers can use the Inter-Chapter Travel allocation to reimburse a portion of costs traveling to initiations or service projects at other Chapters, as long as your Chapter is in good standing.

#### (1) Talk to your Chapter President

Prior to your trip, your Chapter President authorizes travel reimbursement by emailing approval to the National Treasurer, treasurer@mubetapsi.org.

#### (2) Meet New Brothers

Get ready to experience Brotherhood in a whole-new place! They'll want to know you're coming, though. Contact Brothers at your destination in advance, so they can help you find a place to sleep.

#### (3) Get Reimbursed

Keep your receipts. For trips over 120 miles, expenses like gasoline, rental cars, train tickets, and highway tolls are all reimbursable.

#### » More Information

For full details, access the Brothers' Intranet from <u>mubetapsi.org</u> using your username and password. As of now, it's stored in Knowledgebase > Policies, Manuals and Guides > Inter-chapter Incentive.

## **National Secretary**

Sarah Guthrie, Acting National Secretary Alumni Association / Mu Chapter



Secretary role, and fall simply continues the motion. Julia Kester has spent significant amount of time making the Secretary position a bit easier by formally automating the most tedious portion of the role- deadline reminders. There are many in September (and throughout

the year) so this is the first month where we are taking advantage of this change.

I've also been working closely with the national officers and ensuring minutes are completed in a timely fashion. They are typically distributed on the MAL listserv but are also available upon request. I am currently working on the fall address list and assisting Tyler in the shingles project.

Summer was fantastic overall and I'm enclosing a picture of my son (James) and I on a nice sunny day. ₹



Sarah Guthrie and son James on a nice sunny summer day.

## Web Talk with Julia

Julia Kester, Chair of the National Information Technology Committee Alumni Association / Nu Chapter

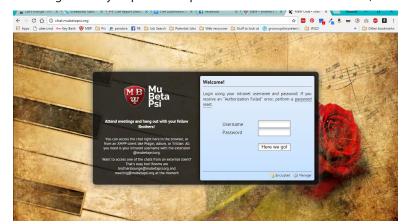


The chatroom is a great place not only for meetings, but to just hang out and talk (break the Intranet party, anyone?). That is why I am happy to officially announce that we have a new and improved chatroom! National has been using it a bit over the summer, and we should have the kinks worked out now. Our temporary chatrooms on the new intranet lacked some of the functionality we need for our meetings. Most importantly, we weren't able to personal message one another. PMs are back, and the new chat system also employs XMPP -which means that you can log in on the website as usual, or use a client like Pidgin or Adium (yay for all of us older folk that are used to AIM!). The chat has moved off the intranet to its own site, but still uses your intranet login once you perform a password reset. For more details, visit

mubetapsi.org/intranet/chat-fag.

Also on the web side of things, the Fraternity is trying to move away from paper materials. This includes the forms that we submit to our National Officers. I've been working with the National Officers steadily over the past few months to convert these forms to digital format, and now have all scheduled report forms besides the Address List up and running. Down the road, I will work on digitizing the rest of the forms. I'm sure that there will still be some tweaking to the forms, but all in all I think this will make our forms easier to both find and fill out.

I'm always open to feedback and suggestions, so feel free to email me at **webmaster@mubetapsi.org** if you have anything you'd like to throw at me!



Our newest addition to the internet part of Mu Beta Psi, the chatroom!

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## Giving a National Scholarship

Jacqueline Harms, National Scholarship Management Committee Chair Zeta Chapter



o far this year, the National Scholarship Management Committee (NSMC) has been busy. We have been working towards our main goal of giving our first scholarship. Each member has their own role, which includes publicity, editing the policy, updating the website, fundraising, and getting a list of contacts at each chapter and each university.

We currently have the contacts for all the chapters and confirmed the contacts to the school financial department and incoming student department. They have also relayed what their process is for giving a scholarship.

We have updated the policy. Many of the updates were small, like adding a time to the due date. The largest change to the policy was moving the due date of the application from May 31st to March 1st. This allows the committee to meet face to face at convention to either choose an applicant for the scholarship or narrow it down to two applicants, so then at general meeting at convention we can announce whether or not we are giving a scholarship or not. We then fixed the rest of the policy to match this date.

Publicity-wise we have business cards, a list of scholarship websites to attract more applicants, a poster, a brochure and a certificate for the winner. Currently, we are working on following the ensembles on Twitter. If you know the Twitter handle for an ensemble at one of our Chapters, feel free to contact me at scholarship@mubetapsi.org.

On the website, http://www.mubetapsi.org/scholarship/, we added photos, a home hyperlink on each webpage to get back to the home page of the scholarship site, fixed a couple things such as the time and date when the scholarship is due, and we are trying to show up on the search results page of Google. Currently, you are unable to find the scholarship website in a search engine. We are still waiting on Google to fix the issue.

We have created a list of fundraising ideas and are focusing on running some of the fundraisers now that the school year has started. Currently, we have Good Search and penny wars at convention. We are hoping to expand on those, so in the future we can give a larger scholarship or give multiple scholarships. The main fundraiser that we have started is adding a donation link to our website to start small. If you have any fundraising ideas contact me at scholarship@mubetapsi.org. Look for fundraisers to come this school year. \$\times\$

## Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Matt Zander, Chairman of the Board of Trustees Alumni Association



s CBoT, much of my attention this fall has been taken up with the annual renewal of the Fraternity's liability insurance, which takes place every September. I know, exciting stuff, but as our largest annual expenditure and an important part of our risk management as a modern fraternal organization, it's well worth the time and effort. Every year, with the assistance of the National Treasurer and now the Chief Financial Officer, we need to supply our insurance providers with accurate, current information about the Brotherhood, so that they can quote us an appropriate amount based on our size (i.e. the number of chapters) and memberships. We then need to make sure that a sufficient amount has been budgeted and that an arrangement is made to pay the bill and bind the insurance for the Fraternity for another year. This year, I'm happy to say that this all came together and our coverage is once again renewed.

However, I want to take the opportunity here to remind Brothers about one aspect of our insurance plan. It is one that could benefit them directly, and I don't think many of them know about, the Member Accident Protection Plan (MAPP). As part of our insurance coverage, the MAPP provides our collegiate members with a second source for medical compensation (beyond their primary medical insurance) for accidents that occur either at Fraternity functions or traveling to and from them. Slip and fall at a rush or a get into a car accident driving to National Convention? The MAPP would likely apply and is available as a resource. There are some conditions under which it doesn't apply, such as suicide, intoxication of the member, during intramural sports, air or ferry travel, during holidays & breaks and \*ahem\* hang gliding, so you would need to keep these in mind before applying for MAPP benefits. Details of the MAPP have been provided to BoT members, including your chapter Presidents, so please see them or myself if you are interested. And please don't schedule a hang gliding rush.

In Brotherhood,

Matt Zander, Chairman of the Board of Trustees

## Historian News

Nathaniel Kulyk, National Historian Alumni Association / Xi Chapter



am very pleased to offer this report for The Clef, as the past several months have been very productive.

Over the summer, I worked with Acting National Secretary Sarah Guthrie to review all of our national policies in order to ensure that all of the approved changes since 2012 are reflected. Additionally, I've worked to add biographical information and photographs to the Brother's database on the intranet. Some of the more noteworthy biographies have been reflected in the Archives Facebook Page and the Mu Beta Psi Wikipedia page. At the July NEC Meeting, I introduced a proposal to designate the Brother's intranet database as the National Roll. This motion was ultimately approved.

I also selected Members for the Centennial Stories Ad Hoc Committee. These include Andrew Fleming, Ashley Ford, Hannah Kowalewsky, and Erica St. Lawrence. All have expressed a strong passion for history and a deep desire to research and gather stories -- including direct interviews -- of Psi Alumni. Already, interviews have taken place with Bryan and Milton Bliss, Ralph Daniel, and Jeff Paulson. My hope is for additional interviews to take place in the coming months, and several Brothers have already expressed an interest. These include Ted and Karin Halverson, Jodi and Kim Bledsoe, and Owen Cordle.

As the academic year progresses, my goals include the following:

- -Adding Archive Files to the Knowledgebase
- -Proposed Amendments to the NHAC Policy Manual -- I've drafted a list of 20 proposed Amendments, and I hope to have these

Amendments considered and approved by both the NHAC and NEC this year.

- -Archives Facebook Page -- We recently marked the second anniversary of its creation and the page has over 500 members!
- -Prospectus -- The 2016 edition of the Prospectus has been approved. I will make revisions and have it reviewed and hopefully approved by both the NHAC and NEC in the coming year.
- -Wikipedia Page -- I still need to find someone who knows how to add both pictures and proper citations.
- -Automating Submissions & Reminders -Research cost to convert anything we have on VHS to another format -- I will look to investigate the cost of such a project and look to submit a proposal for next year's budget.

As always, Brothers are more than welcome to contact me if they have pictures or other items which they would like to pass along to me, either for sharing on the Facebook Page, or as a donation to the Fraternity Archives.

IBh, Nathaniel Kulyk≮



## Living with Brothers, Part 2

Let's talk about the blessings and challenges of living with Brothers - following the article published in the spring Clef.

By Katelynne Hendrick

Zeta Chapter

n our last edition of *The Clef*, Brothers talked about the blessings and challenges of living with other Brothers. Now that the school year has begun and many Brothers are living together, it is important to find ways to highlight the good experiences and minimize the bad ones. Fortunately, Brothers shared some advice to have positive experiences when living with Brothers.

#### 1. Be conscientious of the composition of housemates.

There are two reasons this is important. We love our Brothers, but if you only talk about Psi or have big get-togethers with mostly Brothers, people who aren't involved in Psi could feel left out. It's great to spend time with Brothers and talk about something



Alpha Brother roommates Ralph Daniel and Ted Halverson pictured at their graduation in 1964

you care about, but don't neglect your relationship with your roommates who aren't involved. Not only does this cause hurt feelings, but it may impact their perception of the organization as a whole. Brothers aren't, and shouldn't be, our only friends. There are a lot of great things we do that should be shared, but like any group, there maybe be conflicts or topics that are best kept within the organization. However, this doesn't mean you should never talk about Psi. Living with someone who isn't a Brother can be a great opportunity for them to see what an awesome group we are and encourage them to get involved as well.

#### 2. Keep business separate from personal relationships.

When living with Brothers, it isn't always easy to keep business out of the house. Living together makes planning events or talking about goals convenient, but sometimes, it can be too much. No matter how much you love Psi, you should take a break. Garrett Cooperman (Nu/AA) recommends setting rules about discussing Psi business and provides examples like not talking business during dinner or after a certain time in the evening. It is also important to not let conflicts from one setting fall into another. Don't let the fact that a Brother doesn't

Pi Brother Roommates Kelsea Holton, Susan Eichert, and Alexandra Henninger

do their dishes affect how you respond to their ideas in meetings, and don't let a stressful meeting cause you to be snippy with your Brother when you get back to the house. Make sure that you take time to yourself. Everyone needs time to recharge, and taking that time to yourself will improve your relationships with Brothers and others.

#### 3. Set (and follow) ground rules.

Make sure you and your roommates, whether they are Brothers or others, have a mutually agreed upon plan for situations that may arise. Even if you aren't living with Brothers, **Nick Rosencrans (Zeta/AA)** provided us with some great talking points about house rules and expectations. See next page:

#### **MONEY ISSUES**

- Rent: What date is rent due? What happens if I can't pay?
- Utilities: Who pays utilities? How does utility cost get divided? When is it due?
- House Food: Will we purchase house food (like butter or sugar) together?
- House Supplies: Will we purchase house supplies (like toilet paper or bleach) together?

#### **SOCIAL ISSUES**

- Roommate Conflict Communication: If you're upset with me, how should we talk about it?
- Common Areas: What is acceptable use of common areas? When should I ask first?
- Division of Bathroom / Kitchen / Storage Space: How should space be divided?
- Eating Roommate's Food: If you eat my food, what should you do?
- Using Roommate's Things: If you need to use my stuff, when should you ask first?
- Music Volume: How loud is too loud? How late is too late?
- Company / Guests: Who can show up without warning? How well-supervised will they be?

#### **POLICIES**

- Front Door: When should the front door be locked?
- Room Doors: What does a closed door mean? Open door? Cracked door?
- Hours: When is generally-acceptable sleepy time?
   Are we night people or morning people?
- Heat: What temperature balances cost and comfort best?
- Shoes: When do shoes stay at the door?
- · Mail: Who gets the mail? Where does mail get left?
- Parking: What parking rules exist?

#### **CHORES**

- Sweeping / Vacuuming / Cleaning: How often is appropriate? How dirty is unacceptable?
- Trash / Garbage: Who takes the garbage? How strict should turn-taking be?
- Dishes: Should we all wash our own dishes? Should we take turns? How strict should turn-taking be?
- Snow: What needs to happen when snow falls?
- Laundry: Who cleans house laundry (rags, towels, etc)?



Zeta Brothers Jimmy McEwan and Andrew Fleming, roommates during their pledge season, Spring 2001.



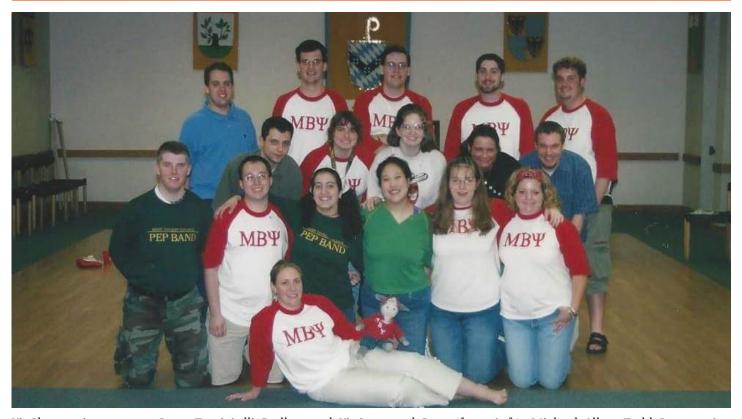
Rho Bros of Park Place: Marissa Gillett-Behrens, Cassidy Berlin, Anna Kase, Mack`enzie Hirn, and Ryan White.



Jenna Crouch, Pat Gillman, Zach Evans, Emily LaPine, and Blake Panasiewicz (pictured) are only a few of the Zeta Brothers to live in Board House throughout the years.

## Xi Chapter: 20 Years

By Ashley Ford, Staff Writer Alpha Chapter



Xi Chapter in 2003. 1st Row: Traci Lalli Rodkey and Xi Goat; 2nd Row (from Left): Michael Allen, Todd Barnett, Jen Franks (Koury), Beth Chu (Demharter), Stephanie Emery, and Laura Mallery; 3rd Row (from Left): Drew DeCarlo, Melissa Pegg, Lucia Irene Soltis, Nicole Florenz (Brush), and Dave Jawzwiak; 4th Row (from Left): Jason Winters, Matt Kopchick, Nathaniel Kulyk, Dave Guthrie, and Matthew Davis.

ounded on November 17th, 1996 at St. Vincent College, Xi Chapter turns 20 years old this year!

St. Vincent College is a small, Catholic Benedictine, liberal arts college in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. It was the first Benedictine monastery in the United States and is currently operated by the Benedictine monks of Saint Vincent Archabbey. As with Mu Beta Psi, service is an important component of the Benedictine tradition. The namesake for the college is St. Vincent DePaul. He is considered the patron of charities and volunteers and is known for his generosity.

Xi Chapter has produced multiple notable Brothers who have contributed greatly to the success of Mu Beta Psi. Megan (Roble) Trepasso and Molly (Kuhns) Stoltz both served as National Editors of the Clef. Our current National Historian, Nathaniel Kulyk pledged Xi Chapter in the spring of 2001. He first served as National Secretary for a full three year term beginning in 2004. He was then elected as National Historian in 2007 and has been diligently serving

the Fraternity ever since. Nathaniel was awarded the Ralph Daniel Brother of the Year Award in 2015 for his great work and dedication to Mu Beta Psi. Xi Chapter Brother Christopher Pecoraro was also awarded the Ralph Daniel Brother of the Year award in 2001, the first time the award was presented.

Another noteworthy Alumni of Xi Chapter is Christopher Rodkey. He is a founder of Xi Chapter and is actually responsible for initiating contact with Mu Beta Psi to colonize a Chapter at St. Vincent College. Chris participated in the writing of St. Vincent's fight song "Forward, St. Vincent." He is the only Xi Chapter Brother to be elected as National President of the Fraternity, serving from 1999 to 2001. He is currently the pastor of St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Dallastown, PA.

Xi Chapter has won many awards throughout its young tenure as a Chapter. This includes being one of the three Chapters to win the Christian Kutchinski award-- both in 1999 and 2000. In 2002, Xi won the Priceless Memories



Xi Chapter Brothers receiving their charter in 1997: Mike Hall, Heather Hall, Brian Hougentoguler, Christopher Rodkey, and Kristi Shultz

Scrapbook competition, with the theme "Xi at 5".

Service to music that the Brothers of Xi Chapter participated in includes but is not limited to: donating money to the newly renovated theatre on campus, creating an annual "Sounds of Xi" CD, ushering at events, fundraising, and singing Christmas Carols at a local senior citizens center.

There are five honorary Brothers of Xi Chapter: Dr. Thaddeus Coreno, Dr. Marie Frank, Dr. Dennis McDaniel, President Emeritus James Will, and Father Cyprian. Father Cyprian may be the first (and only) Benedictine priest to become an Honorary Brother of Mu Beta Psi after being installed in February of 2004. Dr. Corneo and McDaniel served as the Chapter's advisors. James Will was the President of the St. Vincent College when he was installed as an Honorary Brother.

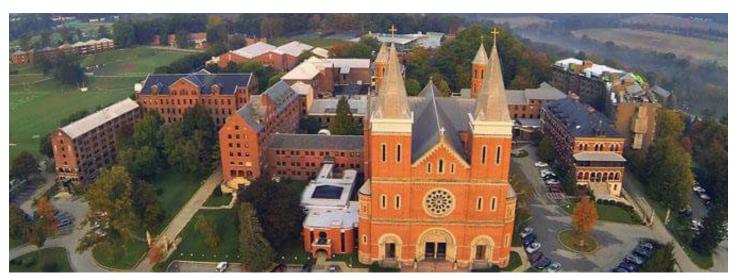
Xi Chapter's time as an active Chapter provided Mu Beta Psi with wonderful talent, great Brothers, and a high standard of excellence. Although Xi Chapter went inactive in 2006, the Brothers they created are still showing the National Organization what it truly means to be a Brother of Mu Beta Psi through their dedication to our National Organization and love for one another. We thank our Xi Chapter Brothers for all they have contributed so far and all they will continue to devote to Mu Beta Psi in the years to come. \$\cdot\{}

#### **Catch a Glimpse of the Archives**

The National History and Archives Committee has an active account on Facebook. All Brothers are welcome to join. If you would like to join the group, contact Nathaniel Kulyk at <a href="historian@">historian@</a> mubetapsi.org.



Xi Chapter Brothers receiving their charter in 1997: Mike Hall, Heather Hall, Brian Hougentoguler, Christopher Rodkey, and Kristi Shultz



An aerial view of the St. Vincent College campus.

# Talphacron IV THE QUEST FOR PEACE

By Ashley Ford, Staff Writer Alpha Chapter

alphacron (noun): "Talphacron is the summer's biggest frat party. Kinda. Except instead of togas, we wear regular clothes, and instead of Jello shots we have a family-style dinner on the banks of the Falling Creek Reservoir.

Brothers from all over come to hang out, enjoy each other's company, customize shirts and glassware, and hear

Phillip Staten's greatest (or at least his longest) joke."



Located at the heart of Tau, Alpha, and Omicron Chapters lies the Staten household. For the fourth year in a row, Phil and Jen (with the assistance of fellow Omicron Alumnus Sean Weiser) opened up their homes for the most fun and relaxed interchapter get together of the summer. Brothers from Alpha, Nu, Omicron, Pi, Xi, and Tau were in attendance, making this year the most attended Talphacron to-date!

This year, Talphacron started with a field trip to a local minor league baseball game. The Richmond Flying Squirrels played the Trenton Thunder. Some Brothers

were excited to see their first baseball game in a few years, but Alpha Brother Jessica Caudle's excitement to see

her first baseball game ever couldn't be outdone. Many Pokemon were caught and many laughs were had.

Upon arriving home, we were greeted by the Brothers who got into Richmond a little later and dove head first into a rousing game of Cards Against Humanity. The best takeaway of the game was the proper usage of the phrase "Bless your heart." If you have any questions, feel free to contact Bronson (Nu Chapter Alumnus and NVPE) as he became an expert on the term.

The following morning we awoke to a lovely pancake breakfast prepared by Chef Phil and were off to the races with more Brotherly activities. Some Brothers stayed home and worked on letter shirts and screen printing while the majority of the group ventured out to Hollywood Cemetery for sight-seeing and Pokémon hunting. The cemetery features the graves of a few United States Presidents and multiple upstanding Confederate soldiers, as well as a breathtaking view of the Richmond Canal.

Once returning home, we then launched straight into an all-afternoon crafting and games session. Some Brothers



Brothers at the Flying Squirrels Baseball game: Back row: Aaron McClannon, Travis Cothran, Jeffrey Nesbit, Maggie Strakna, Seth Hobson, Tammy Goetz; Front row: Brian Huff, Jessica Caudle, Ashley Ford, Angela White, Victoria Pediaditakis

made shirts with sewn-on letters and/or screen prints while others played board games such as Defenders of the Realm, Life Twist and Turns, Start Fluxx, Monty Python Fluxx, Snake Oil, Munchkin, Life, Bezzerwizzer, and Perquack for the rest of the day.

Following a wonderful macaroni bar dinner, the Brothers of Talphacron separated into smaller groups for various activities. These activities included finishing earlier crafts and board games, bonding and telling Brotherhood stories, and last but not least: the annual telling of "Nate the Snake" by Phillip Staten. If you are unfamiliar with the story, you'll just have to attend next year's Talphacron to hear it for yourself!

The last Talphacron experience was the annual etching of glassware with Talphacron images designed by the lovely



Pi Brother, Glenn Arnold, glares at the Bellsprout interrupting his board game.

Jen Staten.

Talphacron is the most fun and relaxed Brotherhood gettogether of the summer. The combination of Brothers and such a laid back event provides for a wonderful opportunity to meet and get to know Brothers from other Chapters in a way no other event does.



Alpha Brother, Victoria Pediaditakis, screenprinting her official Talphacron IV shirt!



Maggie Strakna (Omicron) poses with her complete screenprinted shirts!



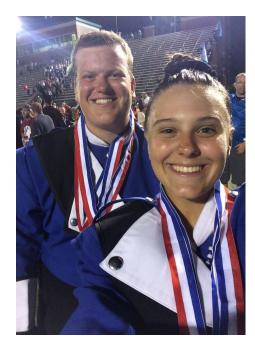
## Another Kind of Brotherhood

#### By Veronica Tabor, Zeta Chapter

here isn't a moment or aspect of my life that hasn't been influenced or affected by drum corps. It is truly and experience like no other. The saying goes 'Drum corps, for those that have done it, no explanation is needed, and for those that haven't no explanation is possible''. These are the words that Zeta Brother Aaron Christianson used to describe his experience as a part of Raiders Drum and Bugle Corps. Though he is just one member of Mu Beta Psi, other Brothers that have participated in a drum corps feel

similarly, and have been able to use their experiences to strengthen their ties to our organization.

Marissa Gillett-Behrens, a Rho Brother who marched with the Blue Stars Drum and Bugle Corps, said that, "In marching, I was able to uphold our purposes. With all of the professional institutional staff and collegiate level students involved in drum corps, it is inevitable to put music as an educational subject and promote fellowship among musicians everywhere".



Aaron Christianson and friend, Maddie, in Raiders uniform.

For many Brothers, this is not just a musical experience, but a lifechanging opportunity to challenge themselves as they never have before. "[Drum corps] has affected my ability to push through so many hardships in life. 13+ hour work call starting at 6am? try 14 hour rehearsals in the middle of summer in the sun after getting 3 hours of sleep on a gym floor. Rough break up? Try leaving the people you spent the last 3 months sharing every single second with, some you will never see again. A pain, sore or injury? Try marching a show with a sprained ankle, or a stomach virus, and still performing at the level you do the rest of tour," commented Christianson, who has just finished his 4th year in drum corps.

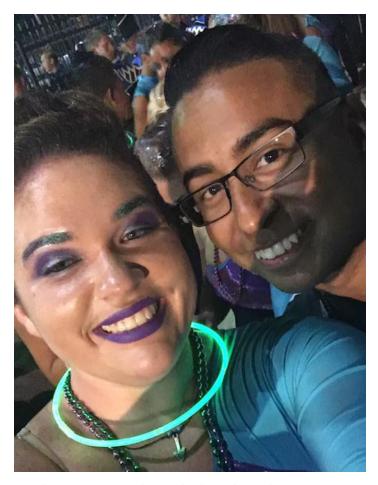
Being in a drum corps is much like Psi: several musicians who are beyond passionate about what they do, put together in one place to achieve a common goal. And much like the relationships, memories, and life-long friendships that we have all experienced in Psi, being in drum corps has similar results. Christianson explained, "Once a season ends, your life changes. People age out, people

move on, people leave the activity. Once you leave finals night, that same group of people will never ever be together again as long as you live, and that is really hard to deal with when they are your best friends. Closer to you than family. I know more about my friends from Raiders, and they know more about me than my blood relatives".

Not only is the drum corps experience impactful on members' personal relationships. but upon their musicianship as well. Gillett-Behrens says, "Marching was one of the best decisions I made as a musician. All of the staff was phenomenal. They pulled incredible sounds from us, and continued to push our limits to grow into a professional powerhouse. I've learned more solid and applicable techniques from that brass staff than all my years of private lessons. More so, I developed a standard of musical excellence in practice and



Jayne Cooperman Heidelberger with the Bayonne Bridgemen Alumni Drum and Bugle Corps. Photo from Chris Maher.



Brothers Kim Murphy and Ubie Alvarado at DCA Championships.

performance." Christianson noted that, "You practice the same music from November to August, at most being 13 minutes long. You work on it every day for the last 3 months and you don't work on much else. You become very familiar with that music, and at times it becomes frustrating to sit in a sectional block repeating the same chunk of music because yours peers can't play it, or when you can't, especially when you have had it since November. However, working on the same piece of music for that long has vastly improved my understanding of it, as well as the emotion it is trying to convey. The first time you read through something versus the last time you perform it is not relatable. Sure, the notes and rhythms are the same, but you have dedicated your life to that piece for 3 months, and it has become something more to you and those around you, and any time you hear it you start crying".

Mu Beta Psi is similar to a drum corps in more ways than one. Ryan Ansorge, a Rho Brother who marched with the Kilties Drum and Bugle Corps, gushed about his experience. "[The Kilties] welcomed me with open arms and made me feel like one of them. The closest experience I can compare that to is honestly the overwhelming feeling of Brotherhood I feel with Mu Beta Psi. Knowing that you have people to count on, and can count on you is really what it's all about, whether it's drum corps, or Mu Beta Psi. I wouldn't change either for the world". Christianson compared the two organizations with the following. "Mu Beta Psi and drum corps are both the instantaneous love of someone wearing the same shirt as you. If you find someone in the wild wearing letters, you are instantly bonded to them, similarly, if you find someone wearing a drum corps member jacket, you know the two of you have been through the same great and horrible situations."

Marching in Drum Corps International has been an amazing experience for several Mu Beta Psi Brothers. If being able to uphold our purposes and becoming a better musician sounds appealing to you, the lifechanging moments and life-long friendships will come naturally. We at The Clef strongly encourage any Brother considering doing Drum Corps to talk to those who have experienced it. "Psi and drum corps are extremely similar [experiences], as well as being worlds apart, and they are both integral parts of why I am who I am today," responded Christianson, and we're sure that any other corps Brother would agree.



Aaron Christanson warming up with the Raiders Drum and Bugle Corps.

### Nu Chapter is Written into Waterman Theater History

By Katelynne Hendrick, Technical Writer Zeta Chapter

he impact Mu Beta Psi, Nu Chapter, has had on Waterman Theater is now literally inscribed in its history. Zachary Parchomenko (Fall 2006, Alpha Alpha pledgeclass) spearheaded a fundraiser to give seats to the theater during its renovation. During the multimillion dollar renovation, Brother Parchomenko requested help from the Brothers of Mu Beta Psi explaining, "As Brothers of Mu Beta Psi, we all have a love for music and and an undeniable level of service in our hearts for those who need us. Under this campaign we are trying to give a material seat to our beloved Waterman Hall that encompassess our love of Mu Beta Psi and the service we have all given over the years."

They successfully raised enough money for two chairs. There are two inscriptions. One read "Brotherhood, Loyalty, Trust. - Mu Beta Psi" This chair was made possible through the support of Nu Chapter Brothers, friends and family. There was also a chair specifically from the Alumni Association that blended SUNY-Oswego's alma mater with "Hail the Spirit;" its inscription reads ""Voices fill the air....Brothers sing we now" - Mu Beta Psi"



The new interior of the Waterman Theater, which includes the two chairs inscribed by Nu Chapter.

Alumni of Nu Chapter have a strong connection and fond memories of Waterman, and providing the money was a way to give back. As Brother Parchomenko said, "by inscribing the seats in the theater with our song and our spirit, we can imbue the theater with our dedication and love of music for years to come."

## WHAT DOES THE BROTHERHOOD SAY?

#### **Smartphone**



50%



49%



1%



#### WHO WOULD YOU VOTE FOR?

Hillary Clinton: 56.8% Gary Johnson: 11.6%

Jill Stein: 2.1% **Other**: 29.5%

Ron Reagan All Hail Cthulu

Are there any other choices?

**Bart Simpson** 

Can we change Green Day's lyrics to "Wake Me Up When November Ends"?

#### WINNERS OF THE MASCOT OLYMPICS



Alphaca the Alpaca Track & Field



Zeta Sledge



Balls the Snowman Philyx the Phoenix Weightlifting Synchronized swimming



Archery



Henry Cannon Rho Joe the Moose Shooting



Triathlon



**Plataupus** Swimming





BLT the Elephant Wrestling

### Social Media Usage



61.8%



9.8%







The Clef Fall 2016 mubetapsi.org

## Chapter Reports

### Alpha Chapter — Raleigh, NC

During summer months, Alpha Chapter participated in primarily social events, including dinners, Talphacron, Mid-Year, and a trip to the Carowinds Amusement Park. The Brothers thoroughly enjoyed catching up, reestablishing bonds, and simply having a good time together.



Tabling; Brothers Ben Adams, Glenn Wagstaff, Fredi Reyes Photo Taken By: Ashley Ford

Classes began at NC State on August 17th, so Brothers reconvened on the 16th and participated in a flea market yard sale on the 27th in order to raise money for the 2017 National Convention. Our Chapter will be hosting the Fraternity's annual event March 10th through 11th. Also, early in the semester, Alpha Brothers worked diligently to prepare themselves as new officers, review policies, solidify statuses, populate committees, and develop budgets. The Chapter discussed and listed fifteen goals to focus on this year. Specifically, goal foci for the coming year are Pledging, finances, wellness, national involvement, relations within the university, and the National Convention.

After the Chapter addressed regular Fraternal business, Brothers were able to readjust their focus and begin planning major activities, particularly in regards to Pledging. On September 13th, several Brothers set up a recruitment table for the university's Campus Connections event, and Rush took place the same week, consisting of an interest meeting, a cookout, outdoor activities, tie dying, a movie night, and a campus scavenger hunt. The Pledgemasters did a fantastic job preparing for the events and handling unexpected challenges, and several Brothers stepped up to help as needed in order to make the week run smoothly. On September 16th, Alpha Chapter Brothers extended Bids to ten Potentials, four of which are French exchange students. Alpha is thrilled for the current Pledging season, though the Chapter anticipates facing certain challenges with the four exchange Pledges since this occurrence is unprecedented. However, both

Alumni Brothers and Brothers from other Chapters have already agreed to help Alpha with translating, so the Chapter has a strong system in place for handling the potential obstacles. In addition, Wolfpack Brothers had a potluck Bid Dinner (9/22), during which Brothers bonded with Potentials and distributed Bids. Nine Pledges were Pinned on September 25th.

Alpha Chapter is excited to announce that they are in the process of Initiating three new Honorary Brothers, Rich Holly, Amy Sawyers, and Kathryn Brown. Rich Holly is the Executive Director of ARTS NC STATE as well as a talented percussionist, and Amy Sawyers oversees the outreach program for ARTS NC STATE and Arts Village. She is responsible for identifying links between the program and NC State courses, which is a key indication that she is dedicated to advancing the arts as educational subjects. Similarly, Kathryn Brown is a professor in Arts Entrepreneurship, who has more than fifteen years of experience with teaching private clarinet and piano lessons and performing in orchestras. In addition to gaining new Honorary Brothers, Alpha will be addressing the challenge of finding a new faculty advisor in the coming months.

#### Zeta Chapter - Houghton, MI

Hello Brothers!

Fall at Zeta chapter has been busy! The first week of the school year we held a lock-in where we participated in Brotherhood bonding activities and discussed the future of our chapter. With hockey season beginning and the full schedule in our fine arts department, we have been volunteering non-stop! We're looking forward to participating in Make A Difference Day with the university on October 22nd, as well as hosting our annual Spaghetti Dinner to benefit Calumet Band on October 15th.

We have created an ad-hoc bylaws committee to review our



'Baby got Bach' class and staff holding Zeta Sledge: Rebekah Kettler, Lyzia Laakso, Ari Dubrinsky, Elise Brehob, Masha Kuznetsova, and Philip Spillman.

#### **Share Your Creativity**

Your talent is worth celebrating! Whether you have a neat doodle hanging around, or if you want to write a few Brotherhood Limericks, you are always welcome to contribute. Send your attachments to <a href="mailto:theclef@mubetapsi.org">theclef@mubetapsi.org</a> anytime.

current bylaws and revise them as necessary. The goal is that this committee will help with the readability and usefulness of the document. We've also begun planning for 2018 convention and will soon have a theme set in place!

On Sunday, October 2nd,, Zeta welcomed our Fall 2016 pledge class 'Baby got Bach.". The class is made up of Ari Dubrinsky, Masha Kuznetsova, Elise Brehob, and Lyzia Laakso. We look forward to seeing what this pledge class holds for our Brotherhood!

Lauren Bushong - Zeta MAL



Zeta Chapter at their fall lock-in! Richard Carpenter, Philip Spillman, Aaron Christianson, Ryan Ralph, Trevyn Payne, Charles Southward, Brian Terry, Tommy Whitaker, Rachel Duffy, Lauren Bushon, Samantha Verran, Glory Creed, Sarah Binkow

#### Nu Chapter - Oswego, NY

It appears we have all endured the first grueling months of school and are kicking butt and taking names! We're very excited for this semester at our chapter as a lot of things are going on, especially internal dynamic changes. We are continuing all of our fundraisers such as bake sales and "Pie a Psi" to help fund the wonderful ideas/events we want to do. We hosted our annual Music Department Appreciation Picnic, in which everyone gets together for a grand old cookout and BBQ, enjoys some tunes, and jokes with teachers and staff. This event has a major turnout every year and has such a positive impact in fellowship amongst the department!

Our beloved music building, Tyler Hall, is about 3/4ths renovated but is finally opened for classes this year! The jazz ensemble and choirs have their practices in the new performance rooms and it is so beautiful. Everyone else is beyond ecstatic to have practices in there. The whole music department is happy to be back in our original home. We have had a major change of plans to our schedule in regards to internal dynamics of our chapter,



Santa-li, Ellen Bryant, Tami Bullard, Andy Pullen, Sam Grogan at Nu Chapter Music Department Appreciation Picnic.

as we will not be taking a pledge class this semester. After careful consideration and many conversations between Pledge Committee and our Executive Board, we have decided that after having a rough pledging process last semester, we want to really revamp it by taking a deep look into every step, its meaning and its implications. We want to be able to bring the spring pledge class in with a process that won't negatively affect them in any way, making sure it's as smooth and proper as before. Our PC is going to be working hard doing mock events and asking for a lot of input from the Brothers.

Things that Brothers are doing outside of Psi:

Caren Morris: She has hosted an art event at the Huntington Free Library & Reading Room in the Bronx in August, showcasing young artists (with a focus on young people of color) in music, poetry, and visual art. She is also currently interning at Atlantic Theater Company and a Production Management Intern after attending a weeklong conference with Artists Striving to End Poverty (ASTEP) in June. ASTEP is a non-profit organization dedicated to using art to make the world a better place, specifically ending poverty. Caren has "graduated" the program, and is officially an ASTEP Fellow for the year of 2016-2017.

Krista Vann: Over the past year, Krista was able to be a large part of the process of founding the American Sign Language Club at SUNY Oswego (ASL Club). In being a part of this, she helped to write the constitution and bylaws for the club, actively promote the idea of an ASL Club being formed to recruit prospective members, to invite responsible students who are passionate about the Deaf community to serve on our executive board and also invite a faculty adviser on board for additional guidance. The ASL Club has been approved as a registered organization by the Student Association at SUNY Oswego in January of 2016, allowing them to focus on the goals of educating in the Deaf culture and community, creating a safe and welcoming environment for students to learn and practice ASL, and most importantly getting involved and interacting with the Deaf community in the Central New York area. This is an area that she is especially passionate about because her best friend of 15 years is going Deaf.

-Andrew Pullen

#### Omicron Chapter - Roanoke, VA

While the 2016 Clef poll voted Omicron Chapter the most likely to fall down a flight of stairs, let it be known that we do not stay down!

The fall semester of 2016 has proved to bring both challenges and opportunities for Omicron. We had our Pinning Ceremony for the Alpha Beta Pledge Class on September 17th. We also are planning on branching out our service this year to the Roanoke community as a whole. One group we are hoping to help is the Roanoke Symphony Orchestra! Another goal for the fall semester is to revive the Mu Beta Psi sponsored Open Mic Night as one of our campus events.

We currently have four active Brothers: Jonas Bouthot, the Treasurer and Sergeant-at-Arms; Claudia James, the Vice President, Secretary, and Historian; Maddie McCall, the President, Member-at-Large, and Webmaster; and Noelle Warfford, the Pledgemaster and Service and Music Activities Chair. However, our Brotherhood has never felt larger. There is nothing but understanding, support, and positivity here at Omicron Chapter.

We have three awesome pledges this semester for Omicron! We have Phillip Bagshaw, Nancy Lewis, and Jalisa (AJ) Waddell! Phillip's Big is Maddie McCall, Nancy's Big is Claudia James, and AJ's Bigs are both Maddie and Claudia. All three pledges are very involved with our music department here at Omicron;



Omicron's Pinning Ceremony. Back: Noelle Warfford (Pledgemaster). Front left to right: Phillip Bagshaw, Nancy Lewis, AJ Waddell.

AJ is in Oriana Women's Choir, Phillip is in Roanoke College Choir, Phillip and AJ are both in the a cappella group RoaNotes (directed by Noelle Warfford!), and Nancy is in the chamber ensemble. Additionally, Phillip and AJ are music majors, and Nancy is a music minor. Most importantly, Omicron's three new pledges are extremely positive and excited people - Omicron is



Pi Chapter's debut of wooden letters at the MBPsi Store in the gym at band camp, following a Brotherhood sponsored ice cream social for the band! From left to right: Keri Kurpick, Pat Zazzaro, Amelia Hubal, Mike Rehorn, Allyson Wagner.

incredibly lucky to have them pledge for us!

During one of our first meetings of the semester, Claudia said a line that I believe perfectly summarized the Mu Beta Psi Brotherhood:

"Music is about listening to the person beside you."

At Omicron, we know how important it is to hear your Brothers. We may not have the largest Chapter, but what we do have is strength, love, and a true family.

What we have is music.

The Brothers here at Omicron wish you nothing but the best... And wherever you go, we hope you find music.

-Maddie McCall

#### Pi Chapter - New Brunswick, NJ

Hello to everyone from Jersey! It's been quite a time since the last issue over here at Pi Chapter. Our summer was rather low-key, with most of the Brothers heading to their respective homes to unwind from the academic year and pursue their seasonal occupations. We had Brothers organize a trip to Six Flags Great Adventure, as well as most of our Chapter going off to band camp at the end of August, and concluded our summer with a purchase of our first set of wooden letters!

Since the start of the new school year, our schedule is packed once again. As always, our Brothers are performing on the B1G stage every Saturday home game and representing the Rutgers University Marching Scarlet Knights on trips to most of the away games as well. Our Brothers are also participating in

## SHARE YOUR MOMENT

The moments that make our Brotherhood strong are happening every day. You can help others experience what matters most to you. Capture your moment and send it to the official publication of our fraternity. Send your pictures and captions to <a href="mailto:theclef@mubetapsi.org">theclef@mubetapsi.org</a> anytime.

several play productions and concert ensembles this semester, and we're excited to enjoy such a variety of performances from these groups. In regards to service, we hosted a blood drive in September and were able to collect 57 pints of blood to donate to the New York Blood Center! We also sent most of our Chapter for participation in the university sponsored Scarlet Day of Service, in which Brothers were sent out in small groups to do various service projects such as painting and community clean-up throughout the New Brunswick/Piscataway area. Other upcoming events include ushering for the theater companies on campus, ticketing for the concert ensembles, beginning prep for our annual charity semiformal in January, as well as assisting the university Belly Dance Troupe with their fall Hafla (performance festival).

In addition to all of this, we have set an unprecedented goal to raise our chapter GPA above a 3.3, which would rank us higher than most of the professional fraternities on campus academically. All this considered, things are going to be very busy around Pi this semester, and we wish the same to all of you!

-Mike Rehorn

#### Rho Chapter — Marquette, MI

Rho Chapter is super excited for this semester! Our committees and Brothers are very ambitious and eager to put our ideas into action! The music committee is trying to figure out the logistics of a concert for the community performed by Brothers. We would like to include our MOMJAMs (Moment of Musical Jamming After Meeting, a little piece composed/arranged by Brothers for small ensembles). We will be having a bake sale soon to help raise money to fund the Marquette City Band's trip to Finland.

The History and Archives committee is very excited to create an extensive online family tree of every Rho Bro in the history of Rho, and then connecting it to Zeta's family tree so we can see how closely we are all really connected! Our Fundraising and



Rho Bigs, Littles, and Pledgemaster at Pinning. Back
Row: Allison Udulutch, Cassidy Berlin, Rick Frankowski,
Sarah Gardner, Anna Kase, Shawn DeYoung; Front Row:
Krystallyn Hiser, Chelsea Krooswyk, Marissa GillettBehrens, Shelby Boschma, Gabi Nitti, Andrea Olson, Mandy
Mileham.



Rho Brothers at Band Camp. Back Row: Kyle Mol, Allison Medema, Sarah Gardner, Mackenzie Hirn, Rick Frankowski, Anna Kase, Keylyn Reed; Front Row: Amanda VanderWall, Katie Bennett, Ryan White, Sara Uribe, Katie Stangis, Nicole DeMol; Moose Squatting in the Front: Shawn DeYoung.

Finance committee is getting the ball rolling on raising as much money as we can for our various events. Last semester, we had a very successful event at Buffalo Wild Wings and we are hoping to do it again (and maybe drag a few Zetas down from Houghton for it). Our biggest service event this semester will be a Haunted Bog Walk at Moosewood Nature Center. Chapter Maintenance and ByLaws had a workshop addressing Brotherhood vs. personal problems and how they relate.

We have so many Brothers participating in ensembles this year! There are 13 Brothers in Marching Band, and we are filling many leadership positions including section leaders, drill instructors, uniform manager, historian, and even drum major! We have 2 Brothers in Arts Choral, the higher level choir here at NMU. We have 3 Brothers performing in Northern Lights ACapella. There are 3 Brothers in the University Choir, and 1 in the Jazz Band. We have a Brother in almost every ensemble!

We are very excited for this upcoming pledging season!! Our rush events were a huge success. We are very very very excited for our six new pledges this semester. Rho can't wait to see what these awesome new ones do!

-Sarah Gardner

### Tau Chapter — Washington, DC

What a semester this has already shaped up to be for Tau Chapter! Our Fall Gala was on October 1, which supported the Sitar Arts Center, a nonprofit organization that provides musical education to underprivileged children in the D.C. community. The Gala featured local artists of all different genres and media, and there was a great turnout for the event. A huge shoutout is in order for our Service Chairs, Dani Fiondella and Ariel Michaelson, and our Service Committee for working tirelessly to ensure the event was a success!

Our Lambda pledge class received their soft pins on Sunday, September 25. We are so excited to have a larger-than-expected pledge class comprised of music and service loving men and

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Tau Chapter with their newest Brothers, the Lambda pledge class.

women! The seven pledges of Tau Chapter, all sophomores, are: Becky Flaherty, Emmie Chipps, William Peters, Alyssa Miguel, Becca Aker, Cali Bronkema, and Cassie Paschall. Congratulations to our Pledgemaster Jess Bauer for recruiting our excellent fall pledge class!

Administratively, Tau Chapter has implemented a few new changes that we hope will allow us to operate more efficiently. The first is the introduction of formal Committees within the chapter, which include the Service, Rules, Pledging, PR/Outreach, and Brotherhood committees. We hope this delegation of certain tasks will help the Chapter run smoothly. Another change is the addition of Special Active Status. Similar to Alpha Chapter's version of this status, Special Active Status is mostly intended for seniors and other brothers whose personal, work, or school schedules warrant a little break from obligations within the Chapter. So far, we have gotten great feedback from those who are Special Active.

Last, but certainly not least, earlier this year, one of our Spring 2016 graduates, Amanda Brenner, was awarded a very large grant to propose a plan to foster peace in the D.C. community. The product of her proposal was the Wage Peace DC Festival,

which was held on September 21 right here at AU. The event featured human rights speakers and peace-promoting organizations that all came together for one day to get their message out to the people of D.C. Many of our Brothers were involved in the event through volunteering, manning informational tables, and one of our Brothers, junior Kim Murphy, even performed at the event's main stage. The event was a huge success, and we are so very proud of Amanda!

I'm sure many of you are thinking about the upcoming election, but Tau Chapter couldn't be more excited about it! Going to school in the heart of D.C., it's near impossible to avoid talking about the election. Senior Sam Garzillo is the President of American University's chapter of the Roosevelt Institute, described as a political "think and act" tank. Everyone is gearing up for November 8, 2016, also known as "The Day D.C. Traffic Stood Still" (more so than normal).

We are looking forward to what the rest of the year will bring us. Good luck to all of you in the rest of the semester!

-Tim Madden

#### Alumni Association

The Alumni Association's summer Mid-Year meeting was held in Atlanta, GA. Local alumni Sarah and Dave Guthrie, Steven Hovey, Molly Stoltz, and Ralph Daniel showed us around their beautiful city. We visited the CNN Center, Georgia Aquarium, and shared a meal at Der Biergarten. There was a strong conference-call contingency. We got to practice our Skype business meeting skills. 18 Brothers from nine Chapters joined us, whether inperson or remotely.

Our membership currently stands at 39. This is a handful smaller than last year, but will likely grow as the year continues.

The primary business discussed was to restructure committee and officer responsibilities. We dissolved most of our committees and shifted some tasks to a new Outreach Committee. We hope these changes will make us more dynamic and give greater clarity on each role's mission.

Two grants from our Music Makers Fund were awarded to Rho Chapter and Allison D'Alessandro. The Music Makers Fund has been able to award continuous grants this past year and is becoming a key part of our Chapter's commitment to service, since it's difficult to organize volunteer efforts among members in disparate states and differing life states.

-Haley Vingsness



Brothers at Mid-Year in Atlanta, GA.

## **Managing Conflict**

A past and present NVPCM have weighed in on how to address conflict.

Written by Nick Rosecrans & Danielle Booms
Arranged by Katelynne Hendrick

ick Rosencrans (Fall 2003, Zeta Chapter) shared gen<mark>eral</mark> advice on addressing conflict.

What's a fraternity to do in order to avoid conflict, or at least manage conflict when it occurs? We're more like family members than classmates or bandmates, because we have bonds with each other that live on past the end of the semester. We get along, sometimes we bicker, and some situations can really strain the ties between us.

- 1. **Conflict can be healthy.** I always hear alarm bells when a Chapter tells me, "Our Chapter never argues. No problems here!" because I don't buy it. Chapters that lack substantive conflict probably don't trust one other. Or put another way, there must not be much at stake anymore.
- 2. Communication might break down when conflict is happening. When people tell me they've stopped communicating, that makes failure even more likely. Don't stop communicating just because it's gotten difficult. Find someone willing to be a neutral third party who you both



Alpha housemates Angela White, Jessica Caudle and Ashley Ford.

trust to keep a level playing field. You can ask your representative to the National Committee on Chapter Maintenance, or ask your advisor.

3. **Difficult conversations are necessary to resolve misunderstandings.** Conflict can fester a long time if nobody initiates a difficult conversation. And new fraternal leaders often struggle setting the expectation that Brothers keep moving through conflict. So start early: every pledge should learn at least basic literacy around communicating in healthy ways. Refreshers at a Chapter meeting

The Brothers of "Grimmauld Place": Zadie Ward, Allison Medema, Cassidy Berlin and Shawn DeYoung from Rho.

would be helpful, too. Bring real scenarios from past years to practice, and include time for self-reflection and feedback. Look for ways to coach each other on how to handle conflict when the stakes are still low.

4. **People don't fear change.** They fear loss. Brothers can be motivated by all kinds of emotions in conflict, but fear of loss can be especially powerful. If there's a change that's leading to conflict, it's not always an impasse. First, try and figure out what Brothers are afraid of losing. And acknowledge that fear. They might be tipping you off to risks or threats, or at least you'll understand each other better.

## Danielle Booms (Zeta Chapter) offered two strategies for mitigating conflict specifically for housemate conflicts.

- 1. Always seek to understand rather than to blame. Approaching conflict in this way is much more productive when blaming someone, they have to be on the defensive. When seeking to understand, they're able to share their side and will be more receptive to hearing your side. Working through conflict like this takes discipline and a conscious effort, but is well worth it in the end.
- 2. Communicate expectations early on, and provide feedback (see guideline 1) when expectations are or aren't being met. Make sure you're on the same level of understanding. Leaving dirty dishes out for a day might be fine for you, but if your housemate prefers dishes to be taken care of the same day, then work together to set an expectation that is mutually agreeable.

## A, B, C; 1, 2, 3; Do, Re Mi

As the school year finally settles down, four Brothers talk about their experiences being teachers

By Christy Sener Townsend, Assistant Editor & Natalie Holbrook, NEOTC

eachers can be some of the most inspirational people in our lives. From a young age, we are consistently looking at them to mold our minds. Teachers work with us on everything from the alphabet to astrophysics, computer skills to cooking, mathematics to music, and all the stuff in between. Educators are incredible people who do service every day by helping to to form future adults, and while hopefully you have thanked the teachers in your life over the years, we at The Clef would like to thank all Brothers in the education field: teachers, substitutes, teacher aides, tutors, administrative workers, and everyone behind the scenes who ensures that our schools run smoothly. The following list of names is only a fraction of the Brothers in this category. We couldn't possibly list every Brother who has worked, is currently working, or will go on to work in education. Since the fall semester is well under way, we want to take this time to thank all of you who have made or will make a difference in the life of a student.

Debbie Andres Alison Cosman Margaret Saelens Erik Hubbard Marley Cook Alison Wolfe Garrett Cooperman Mike Tanzman Amanda Corson Heather Henley Audra Anderson Mordan Snyder Heather Vingsness Beth Chen Neil Huss Janet Schlosser Pritchett Brian Yarborough Nick Goble Jayne Cooperman Heidelberger Casey Hatcher Robb Strieter Jennifer McCarthy Sarah Azevedo Christopher Ciarlariello Julia Kester Christopher Keri Susan Eichert Kari Gursky Tony Sprinkle Christy Townsend Sener Kimberly Griga Trista Owczarzak Danielle Durso Lizzi Ciskowski



#### **Christopher Ciarlariello**

**Location:** Monroe Township, NJ **Subject:** Instrumental Music **Grade levels:** 4th-12th

#### What advice do you have for Brothers who are current of future teachers?

You are helping to shape the future of the world, so always think about the lasting effect you can have on your students, both positive and negative. I love teaching and what I teach. I always remind myself of that when the "other things" get in the way. Stay positive!

#### How did your experience in Mu Beta Psi help you as a teacher?

I think Mu Beta Psi helped me by allowing me to work on my interpersonal skills. It also helped me to practice teaching others various skills. I learned to be an advocate for something I believe in and to voice my concerns in a respectful and coherent manner.

Kim Grigg

Location: Bessemer, MI

Subject: English

Grade levels: 9th-12th

#### Why did you decide to become a teacher?

Two things. The first one is that I had three teachers in school who really inspired me to become a better person and pushed me academically and socially. The second thing is that I started tutoring students and loved it.

## Do you think Mu Beta Psi helped you on your path to education? How?

I think it did. It really gave me a great support system. It also gave me people in my life who understood why I wanted to become a teacher.



Kim & Coworkers (Kim is on far left).



#### Lizzi Ciskowski

**Location:** The O'Neal School, Southern Pines, NC **Subject:** Algebra 2, Physics, AP Calc BC, Yearbook. Adviser to sophomore girls.

Grade levels: 9th-12th

#### Why did you decide to become a teacher?

l always had a passion for service. Education allowed me to follow my passions of service, math & science, and kids. The kids are truly the best part. You never know how the day is going to go. They can change your mood in a matter of seconds - good or bad. My favorite part is when they finally get it or overcome something that was hard at first. I also love when they want you to be part of their life as much as they are a part of yours. I am a mom to 55 kids who I can laugh with, educate, learn from and be inspired by.

#### **Margaret Saelens**

Location: McKnight Middle School in Renton, WA

**Subject:** Social Studies

Grade level: 7th and 7th honors

#### What inspired you to be a teacher?

I decided to become a teacher because I wanted a job that I felt was meaningful, involved working with people, enabled me to continue learning, and incorporated my interests and passions.

#### How did your experience in Mu Beta Psi help you as a teacher?

My experience [as a Brother] has helped me to learn how to be an effective member of a committee. This experience transfers directly, as I am on school improvement committees, helping to plan events, and communicating with groups of people.



## Brothers Wage Peace in DC

Tau Brother Amanda Brenner won a grant contest and got the chance to co-direct a festival for the United Nations International Day of Peace.

Interview conducted by: Natalie Holbrook, NEOTC



Brothers Sarah McKellar, Amanda Brenner, Lisa Beck

## NATALIE: What made you want to join Tau Chapter of Mu Beta Psi?

AMANDA: I had been playing violin with the American University Symphony Orchestra for four years under the baton of Yaniv Dinur. I was already friends with lots of Brothers so I thought for a long time that pledging wouldn't much change my musical experience at American. There were a lot of reasons it did not seem practical: as a sorority sister, I had to petition to join another Greek organization, and I was already devoting a lot of time to music for someone in foreign policy school. But in my senior year, I realized that I did not want to regret not becoming a Brother. Joining Mu Beta Psi ended up being one of the best decisions I made in college. I loved consecrating those friendships, making new friends who are silly and warm, and being around people who share my interests in artistic expression and music education.

## N: How did you get involved with Wage Peace? Was it solely your idea?

A: Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations, Ray Chambers, spoke at my commencement. He announced a competition seeking proposals to celebrate the International Day of Peace with the prize being a two and half month job contract and a \$100,000 grant to make

your vision a reality. I had been doing visual analysis of conflict maps of Sarajevo for my capstone, and I decided to do something similar for D.C. I recommended a 24hour street layout diversion. Sitting in my cap and gown, I never thought I would be shaking Ray Chambers' hand at his Rockefeller Plaza office a few months later. I was really nervous when I heard that I had won. I am 21 years old, a bit of a clown, and spend half my time in the rehearsal hall, but I am smart, and I am passionate about equality. Working with several organizations, my co-winner Amanda Molina and I ended up modifying our plans to create #WagePeace, an event where we introduced underserved children to resources and social justice speakers. The idea is that we cannot find peace without justice. "Wage peace" refers to the active peace that JFK advocated for at his 1963 commencement address at American University. Now it is the motto of our School of International Service.

#### N: What was the grant application process like?

A: It was fairly straight-forward. I had to write about how I would enact 24 hours of non-violence, reiterate my own experiences doing organizing work, and create a sample budget. I also had to film a video to pitch my idea. The video was the most difficult part for me, because I get a little camera shy. You could include letters of recommendation, but I actually did not include any because I thought I had so little chance of winning! I was really just practicing writing a grant proposal.

## N: Which guest speaker were you most excited about and why?

A: I was really excited for social activist, Blair Imani. She is not much older than me, but I look up to her. She runs her own non-profit for femmes worldwide, writes for all sorts of media outlets, and is a very active protest organizer. I do not intend to go into that field in my future career, but I admire her passion and bravery, and she coached me through some of my activism at #WagePeace. Some advisors told me she was unwelcome because of her activism, her civil disobedience arrest, and her politics. Fighting for her right to share her voice was one of the greatest professional struggles I have ever endured. When she took the stage, it felt like a victory for me and for everyone who cares about peace and justice.

## N: What tasks were you in charge of for Wage Peace DC Festival?

A:Too many! I was a co-director so I had general oversight on everything from the ideology behind the event to logistics. Day to day, I focused mostly on community outreach. I worked with speakers, mentorship organizations, and charity partners. I fought for certain viewpoints to be represented. The day of the event, I literally ran around the grounds in my business clothes to make sure things were running smoothly. I actually lost my high heels. I have seen pictures from the event and my hair is standing on end!

#### N: Was Tau Chapter involved in the festival? If so, how?

**A:** I wanted to make sure Tau was really visible at the festival, especially because they are doing amazing service



work this year for the community arts organization, Sitar Arts, which provides services to the same demographic of children we were hosting. My Brothers had a booth at the event to hand out information on Sitar Arts and talk about their upcoming charity gala for which they have raised more than \$1,000. They were some of the first to arrive to volunteer and were ultra enthusiastic. My favorite part was having Brother and fellow member of my pledge class, Kim Murphy perform on stage between speakers. She sang two songs and accompanied herself on acoustic guitar. She comes from the musical tradition of Louisville, Kentucky, and she wore a lovely vintage-style dress, and the little kids were singing along with her! That was so cute to see. Her vocal tone is beautiful.

## N: How did your experience as a Brother help you during the application and planning process?

A: My Brothers have given me my confidence. No organization has so fully embraced me for being me, but they were so supportive in lots of simple ways that made an even bigger difference. Brothers Val Ciskowski, Emmie Chipps, Sarah McKellar, Alain Xiong-Calmes, and Kaitlyn Mesic all hosted me when I was commuting from far away. It was a stressful 60 hour-a-week contract period, so I really needed moments of levity, like at Brother Jess Bauer's birthday. While in D.C., I got to see my Big, Sam Garzillo

and abroad Brothers I had not seen for a year such as Haley Nordeen, Jarrett Murray, and Julia Fishman.

#### N: What was the overall best part of this experience?

A: There were two things: One was learning to fight for what I believe is right. That was a really hard thing to learn, because your instinct as a young person is to defer to your elders, but this was a program on social justice so I had to learn to command authority and take a stand. The second was getting my friends and Brothers involved. I love being able to give something back to people who have given so much to me. This is only one example, but I gave my friend and Tau Chapter President, Alain Xiong-Calmes, the job of

I BELIEVE WE HAVE THE IDEAS, ENERGY, SKILLS, AND TALENT TO ORGANIZE PEACE PROGRAMS IN OUR OWN COMMUNITIES AND OUR OWN BEINGS. SO MY MESSAGE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IS THAT NO MATTER OUR AGE, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE."

-Imrana Alhaji Buba, Nigerian survivor of Boko Haram and founder of Youth Coalition Against Terrorism (YOCAT)

greeting NBA player, Andrew Nicholson, who came to visit the children. He loves basketball so I thought that could be like a gift of sorts to him.

### N: Describe the goal of the Wage Peace festival in your own words.

A: For peace, justice \$



Brothers Amanda Molina and Amanda Brenner. Photo credit: @melissabhudson Twitter

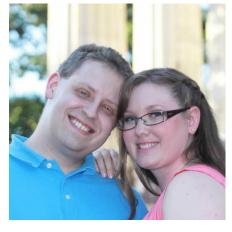
## Congratulations &



Christopher and Molly Ciarlariello (Pi Alumni) would like to announce the birth of their son, Mason Christopher. He was born on August 20 at 11:07am, weighing 6lb. 5oz. and was 19.5in. long.



Zeta Brothers Patrick Gillman and Jenna Crouch got engaged on February 5th. They were happy to share that "many brothers were in attendance for the engagement." Their wedding is set for August 2017.



Erica St. Lawrence (Mu) got engaged to Matt Shaeffer on April 29.



Tessa Burgess (Zeta) got engaged to Nick Toomey on September 21.



Kayleigh Lemery of Rho and her husband Alex are expecting a baby girl in November.



Dylan Smith would like to announce the birth of his second child, Ronan. Ronan was born on February 13 and is described by his father as "a cool kid who loves funny faces and when I sing and dance like an idiot."



Ray Kemmer (Zeta alumn) set the date with Bryan Endres. They have been together for over five years and decided to make it legal on their 6th anniversary.

Do you have exciting news that you would like to share with the Brotherhood? Contact us at (theclef@mubetapsi.org)!

## I Announcements



After two years apart, Rho Big/Little pair, Lindsay Luft and Margaret Saelens have "have finally rejoined (at the hip) for more adventures in the Seattle area after moving a collective 5,000 miles to do so."



Marissa Montero (Rho) and Travis Grace (Zeta) got married on October 8. Marissa explained "we met each other by complete coincidence at Michigan's Adventure. We're also the first Rho and Zeta bro's to get engaged/married!" Credit: Meg Drummond, Rho Chapter.



Kasey Hall (Rho) got married to John Schiebe on October 1 in Kalamazoo, Michigan.



Audra Hagan of Rho married Luke Anderson on June 4 in Iron Mountain, Michigan.



Alice Gerhardt (Zeta Alumna) married Glen Spangler in May.



Jessica Montgomery and Andrew Markel got married on June 11. They are both Zeta alumni and shared "We had a beautiful day surrounded by our family, both biological and fraternal." Credit: Emily Dennis Photgraphy.



Kate Bauer and Ben Hendrick got married on July 9. They are both Zeta alumni and were happy to celebrate surrounded by family, friends, and Brothers at St. Albert the Great University Parish and on Tech's campus. Credit: Natalie Carolyn Photography.

### Letter from the Editor

Natalie Holbrook, National Editor of The Clef Rho Chapter



Hi readers!

I wanted to share a quote from the first National Editor of The Clef, Ted Halverson.

"We hope this publication will be an inspiration for active members to continue carrying on the objectives of Mu Beta Psi and will provide an incentive for inactive members and alumni to take a renewed effort in our organization."

You may recognize this quote from the inside front cover. I wanted to share this quote because it was particularly inspiring to me while working on this fall edition. Mr. Halverson really captures what I tried to do with the spring and fall editions of The Clef and why I wanted to take on this role as your National Editor of The Clef.

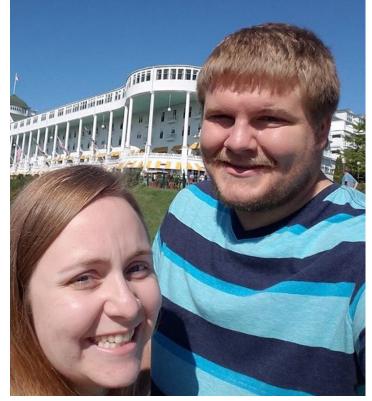
Thanks so much for all the positive feedback we got on the spring edition! I took your opinions from the survey into consideration, so hopefully my committee and I continued the things you loved and improved some other stuff. Thanks so much to my hard-working committee, without whom, this edition would not be nearly as wonderful as it is. I could do this alone, but I would be super stressed and the quality of the publication would suffer greatly. I really appreciate the efforts and contributions of my committee members and all the Brothers who took our surveys, sent in photos, and input their experiences for the articles. I strive to make this publication representative of Mu Beta Psi as a whole, and I think the best way to do that is to reach out to as many Brothers as possible for opinions and stories.

When running for this position, I mentioned wanting to add a spotlight on individual Brothers and their musical or service contributions outside the Brotherhood. My committee and I have worked to include your stories, and have published six articles toward this goal so far! However, we cannot cover a story we don't know about. Please email theclef@mubetapsi. org if you or a Brother you know is participating in service or music regularly, or a special music/service event! We would love to put you in the next edition of The Clef!

I hope that this fall edition of The Clef met its purposes and your expectations. I welcome any feedback you have on this issue and any ideas you have for future issues! Look for a special holiday edition of The Clef, coming in the next few months!

#### Thank You

The Clef committee would like to thank the contributors of photographs and artwork in this edition of *The Clef*. This list includes Brothers, professional photographers (credit has been given with each picture), and others who have posted their photos to multiple social media sites. We appreciate your photography and sharing skills! Thank you.



Natalie with boyfriend and Rho Brother Shawn DeYoung.

## The MBY Alumni Association Welcomes You

Brotherhood is for life. No matter the circumstance, you can be as involved as you want to be. Learn more at <a href="http://alumni.mubetapsi.org">http://alumni.mubetapsi.org</a>.

Chapter Involvement	Associate	Active	
Attend Chapter meetings	1	Required	
Participate in Chapter Discussions	ſ	ı	
Vote on Chapter issues, like where to host Midyear		ı	
Join a committee, like the Gathering committee	•	ı	
Chair a committee		ı	
Hold an office, like Chapter President		ı	
National Involvement	Associate	Active	
Attend the MBΨ National Convention	ſ	ı	
Be active nationally		ı	
Vote on national issues		ı	
Volunteer as a big Brother during colonizations		2	
Staying in Touch	Associate	Active	
Included in MBΨ National Address List	ı	ı	
Receive a copy of Alumni Association minutes	ı	ı	
Subscribe to the Alumni Newsletter	ı	ı	
Subscribe to the alumtalk listserv	ı	ı	
Subscribe to alumni association listserv	ı	ı	
Saving Money	Associate	Active	
Save 10% on purchases from the Alumni Store	ſ	ı	
Earn discounts on Avis Car Rentals	•	ı	
Earn discounts on Alumni Association group activities	\$	ı	
Price	Associate	Active	
Chapter Dues / Year	\$25.00	\$25.00	
National Dues / Semester	\$0.00	\$40.00	
National Dacs / Schlester			

#### (1) We're a mixture.

We're comprised of brand-new graduates and old standbys from a variety of Chapters, put together into something new. We are simultaneously southern and northern; we lean this way and that. But we all love music in academia and the public square — and we love our Brotherhood.

#### (2) We move at a different pace.

We don't push ourselves unrealistically; we're willing to pause and take care of life as it occurs. Our Chapter business can be accomplished over a conversation in a hot tub, if the need strikes.

#### (3) We like to help.

As a Chapter, we focus on giving what we have to help others succeed. We give money toward grants and budget items that further the mission of Mu Beta Psi, and we show our devotion to music, education, and our Brothers. Many of us continue to serve music and education in daily life long after graduation, and our Chapter provides support whenever we can. As a group of mentors, we are a presence for our collegiate Brothers to provide guidance for getting through life's obstacles.

#### Region Networks City Networks

- Gulf Coast
- New England
- New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania
- North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia
- Southeast Michigan
- Upper Peninsula of Michigan
- West Coast

- Charlotte
- Chicago and Eastern Wisconsin
- Minneapolis-Saint Paul
- Roanoke, Salem, Lynchburg
- Washington DC, Baltimore

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The Alumni Association hosting the convention 2016 in



Natalie Holbrook, National Editor of The Clef Mu Beta Psi, National Honorary Musical Fraternity 320 Greenfeather Lane Elgin, IL 60120

