



# The Eta News

OHIO ETA CHAPTER – SIGMA PHI EPSILON – MIAMI UNIVERSITY

## Reunion Weekend 2008

Year after year, SigEp alumni return to Oxford every June to celebrate the brotherhood we've found in Sigma Phi Epsilon. This year, increased numbers are expected and the several classes will be honored for their years of membership.

Current contacts for the reunion are listed below. Volunteers are still needed for the 5th year, 10th year and 20th year reunions. If you are interested, please contact Mark Durket '76 at [mdurket@rsanet.com](mailto:mdurket@rsanet.com) or Brant Smith '01 at [smithbh2@yahoo.com](mailto:smithbh2@yahoo.com).

### 25th Reunion

Class of 1983  
Glen Stacy '83  
(513) 336-0500

### 30th Reunion

Class of 1978  
Jim Carfagno '78  
(847) 550-9998

### 35th Reunion

Class of 1973  
Graham Mitchell '73  
(513) 777-0212

### 40th Reunion

Class of 1968  
Mark Durket '76  
(513) 793-3448

### 50th Reunion

Class of 1958  
Jim Wilson '58  
(847) 381-8217

**ΣΦΕ**

## Campaign Milestone

### *Second Mortgage Repaid in Full*

The second mortgage loan of \$250,000 from National was paid off this past December! Thanks to tremendous alumni support, Ohio Eta was able to pay off the final balance of \$24,000!

As of January 2, 2008, the first mortgage balance is now down to \$885,000. The strategy implemented by Dan McKenzie and Mark Durkett helped turn this long-term dream into a reality.

When the Campaign for Ohio Eta was started in early 2003, the goal was to raise \$500,000 over a five year period to support construction of the new chapter house. Alumni were very generous and more than \$867,000 was pledged. Alumni brothers have been very giving and very responsible in meeting their pledges. Of the \$764,000 due from that original campaign through the end of 2007, \$701,000 (92%) has been received.

Early contributions to the campaign were used immediately to fund the construction.

"On behalf of the Alumni Board, I'm very happy to report that our 2nd mortgage has been repaid in full! As most of you know, we borrowed \$250,000 from National to provide immediate access to a good portion of the money pledged by alumni in our building campaign (The Campaign for Ohio Eta). Through your continued generosity and following our financial plan, we were able to pay it off early. Thanks for all you have done and continue to do to support Ohio Eta."

Dan McKenzie '74

Outside financing was also needed so the alumni board negotiated two loans. The first was a 6.5% mortgage bank loan for \$942,500. The second was an 8.0% mortgage loan for \$250,000 from National to advance the monies expected from alumni pledges to the campaign. Both were balloon payment loans due on August 1, 2008.

In addition, Leave Your Legacy, a second fundraising campaign, was launched last year.

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## 2008 Reunion Weekend and Event in the Tent VII

Planning is already underway for this summer's Reunion Weekend and Event in the Tent VII. Reunion Weekend will be **held Thursday, June 12th thru Sunday, June 15th with Event in the Tent being held on Saturday, June 14th**. All alumni are welcome back to Oxford to reunite with both active and alumni members of Ohio Eta.

Contact **Aaron Rohe '10** at [RoheAD@muohio.edu](mailto:RoheAD@muohio.edu) or (330) 347-6236 for more event details, or if you need help finding accommodations for the weekend. Miami University also has a website dedicated to providing information to alumni about alumni weekend. The site address is <http://www.miamialum.org/alumniweekend.asp>.



Reunion Weekend will be held Thursday, June 12 thru Sunday, June 15 with Event in the Tent being held on Saturday, June 14.

## 2008 Ohio Eta Executive Board

John Owed '09, President  
Sylvania, OH  
Major: Mathematics

Corey Sparks '09, VP of  
Programming  
Olmsted Falls, OH  
Major: Finance

Kurt Nickels '09, VP of Finance  
Cleveland, OH  
Major: Finance

John Medrick '09, Chaplain  
Strongsville, OH  
Major: Microbiology

Frank Bisceglie '10, VP of  
Membership Development  
St. Charles, OH  
Major: Undecided

Aaron Rohe '10, VP of  
Communications  
Wooster, OH  
Major: Mechanical &  
Manufacturing Engineering

Tyler Belew '10, VP of  
Recruitment  
Hamilton, OH  
Major: Sports Studies/  
Management

Adam Altman '10, VP of  
Operations  
Cincinnati, OH  
Major: Pre-Med

Alumni communication support  
and assistance provided by  
Omega Financial, Inc.  
(800) 955-ALUM (2586)  
[www.OmegaAlumniServices.com](http://www.OmegaAlumniServices.com)

Visit  
[www.ohioeta.com](http://www.ohioeta.com)

Visit [www.ohioeta.com](http://www.ohioeta.com) the  
official Ohio Eta website to:

- Learn more about the chapter
- See pictures of the new house
- Search for alumni
- Update your address, phone number and e-mail address
- Post noteworthy accomplishments (a new baby, a recent marriage, a recent promotion, etc.)
- Make a pledge to support the new house
- Join the Ohio Eta Alumni & Friends Association

# The Eta News

## Handshakes & Applause to the Chapter

- SigEp Top in Grades at MU! The fall 2007 scholarship reports are now available at [www.muohio.edu/FSL](http://www.muohio.edu/FSL) under the Facts & Statistics link. Congratulations to Sigma Phi Epsilon and Kappa Kappa Gamma for being the chapter grade point average leaders.
- Ohio Eta finished in the top five among fraternities in Greek Week this past fall.
- Over the summer, Ohio Eta was presented with its 10th Buchanan Cup.
- A new weekly discussion group called Man Study, headed by **Frank Bisceglie '10** and **Will Telzerow '08**, has become a quality member development activity for many of the brothers. The discussion is supplemented by the book *Wild at Heart* by John Eldredge. Those who

attend will reflect on a selected chapter out of the book through the experiences of their own lives.

- Ohio Eta continues to be one of the top fraternities on campus sought after by freshmen.
- After attending SigEp's Carlson Leadership Academy, the 2007 Ohio Eta Executive Board brought home the following awards for the chapter:
  - \* Phi Beta Kappa Wheelhouse Award for Academic Excellence
  - \* Manpower Excellence Award
  - \* Academic Scholarship Cup for best overall academics on Campus

## This Just In! Recruitment 2008 Another Success!

Congratulations to **Tyler Belew '10**, VP of Recruitment and the members of Sigma Phi Epsilon at Miami University on another successful recruitment! The following gentlemen will be part of the 2008 Sigma Class:

Right: The 2008 Sigma Class



Name.....	Year .....	Major.....	Hometown .....
Adam Atallah .....	Freshman .....	Business.....	Cincinnati, OH
Alex Sargent .....	Freshman .....	Business.....	Naperville, IL
Andy Plummer.....	Freshman .....	Business.....	Toledo, OH
Brad Botti.....	Freshman .....	Undecided .....	Dublin, OH
Brian Dinh .....	Freshman .....	Zoology .....	Dayton, OH
Bryan Luvison .....	Sophomore.....	Marketing .....	Brecksville, OH
Dave Williams.....	Freshman .....	Zoology .....	Columbus, OH
Eric Niederhelman .....	Freshman .....	Finance.....	Brecksville, OH
Erik Herman .....	Freshman .....	Business.....	Glen Ellyn, IL
Frank Ebetino.....	Freshman .....	Engineering Mgt. ....	Cincinnati, OH
Gene Collieran .....	Sophomore.....	Finance.....	Cincinnati, OH
Greg Diddel .....	Freshman .....	Finance.....	Greenwich, CT
Greg D'Uva .....	Freshman .....	Business.....	Ridgewood, NJ
Jake Oberlin.....	Junior .....	Business.....	Defiance, OH
Joe Viseur.....	Freshman .....	Finance/Economics .....	Denver, CO
John Folk .....	Freshman .....	Engineering.....	Columbus, OH
Jose Coronado.....	Freshman .....	Economics .....	Cincinnati, OH
Judd Schwab.....	Freshman .....	Undecided .....	Fayetteville, AR
Kendall Sibbing.....	Freshman .....	Microbiology .....	Hamilton, IL
Kyle Duffy .....	Freshman .....	Engineering Mgt. ....	Mason, OH
Kyle Hallion.....	Freshman .....	Finance.....	Louisville, KY
Mark Palcan .....	Freshman .....	Psychology .....	Park Ridge, IL
Matt Freund .....	Sophomore.....	Business.....	Lansing, MI
Robert Elias.....	Freshman .....	Pre-Communications.....	E. Greenwich, RI
Sean Wallace .....	Freshman .....	Business.....	Columbus, OH
Stephen Huff.....	Freshman .....	Mech. Engineering .....	Wyoming, OH
Stu Amstutz .....	Freshman .....	Business.....	Celina, OH
Tim Lu .....	Freshman .....	Business.....	Kettering, OH
TJ Ware.....	Freshman .....	Marketing .....	South Bend, IN
Joe Raimondi .....	Freshman .....	Business.....	Chicago, IL

[www.ohioeta.com](http://www.ohioeta.com)



The 2007 Ohio Eta Executive Board brought home several awards at the Carlson Leadership Academy.



Ohio Eta finished in the top five among fraternities in Greek Week this past fall.

## Alumni Board of Trustees

President  
Graham Mitchell '73

Vice President - Housing  
Herb Glasgow '74

Vice President - Relations  
Cary Dice '73

Vice President - Resource Group  
Mark Durket '76

Vice President - Financial  
Operations  
Dan McKenzie '74

Vice President - Alumni  
Involvement  
Brant Smith '02

Chapter Advisor  
Bob Blackburn '64

### Trustees

Bob Albright '51  
Frank Braun '81  
Jason Chitwood '05  
Dave Chittock '80  
Joe Etter '73  
William "Doc" Gordon '57  
Tom Sherr '78  
Scott Shadrick '71  
Jim Wilson '54  
Brad Young '05  
Joe Hornsby '06

## Sophomore Live-In Requirements Meeting

After much conversation and many rumors about what will come about impending sophomore live-in requirements at Miami, the chapter finally has some answers. The new plan will help the chapter place younger members in the house and produce a campus-wide plan that all chapters will need to follow.

**Graham Mitchell '73** and **Herb Glasgow '74** recently met with April Robles, from the Miami University Office of Greek Affairs, to get a clear picture of the sophomore live-in requirements and to identify issues on which the chapter needs to focus.

### *Requirements include the following:*

- The chapter house would be required to have a live-in advisor who would report to the Alumni Board. The advisor can be an additional assignment house director, an independent housing director, or an undergraduate fraternity community assistant.
- Sophomores residing in the chapter house must have a 2.6 cumulative grade point

average (the house currently requires a 2.75 grade point average). They must attend the alcohol education and sexual assault prevention education as provided by the Greek Governing Councils and the Cliff Alexander Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life and Leadership. Finally, they cannot have any code 1 violations through the Office of Ethics and Student Conflict Resolution.

- The chapter house must maintain an alcohol free common space. Persons over the age of 21 will be allowed to consume alcohol in the privacy of their room. If the chapter wishes to host an event involving alcohol, they must apply for a waiver through the Cliff Alexander Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life and Leadership.

The deadline for the chapter to apply for the exemption to allow sophomores to live in the house will be April 15, 2008. This will not impact sophomores until the academic year beginning in August 2009.

### *Campaign Milestone – continued from page 1*

That campaign is ongoing and more than \$35,000 has been received to date. While some of the contributions have been used for additional furnishings and improvements to the new house, the majority of the funds received have been used to solidify our financial position.

A rainy-day emergency fund was established which currently contains \$111,000. This is enough to cover the mortgage and taxes for a year should the house become temporarily uninhabitable. The campaign has also helped to pay down the debt, as detailed above.

The primary financial objective on the horizon will be to refinance the first mortgage. Additional

contributions received in the next few months will be a great help. Meanwhile the active chapter will be working hard to ensure a full house for the 2008-2009 school year.

Strong, steady support from Ohio Eta alumni has allowed the chapter and alumni board to accomplish a great deal since the new house opened in the fall of 2004. Thank you to all who have contributed!

### Quick Statistics:

As of 12/31/2007:

\$58,322.00.....in Savings  
\$103,057.00.....in Checking  
\$111,000.00.....in Rainy Day Fund  
\$885,000.00.....1st Mortgage  
\$00.00.....2nd Mortgage



www.ohioeta.com



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## New Undergraduate President's Address to Alumni



Undergraduate brothers gather for the Balanced Man Scholarship Dinner.

Brothers,

I would like to take a moment of your time to introduce myself. My name is John Owed, and I will be the new President of the active chapter in February. Currently, I am the V.P. of Recruitment and will be finishing out my term after recruitment and then will fill Adam's shoes. I truly look forward to working with all of you, but I also look forward to bridging the gap between the alumni and the active chapter.

Upon becoming a member, this fraternity has always been my number one activity. For most of you, the *Balanced Man Program* is somewhat new, but it is my reason for being a brother. I strongly believe that balance is the best way to experience life, both in college and in the future.

My enthusiasm towards SigEp is what has driven me to become President. It is with the same enthusiasm that I will ensure we develop our men to stand for our ideals of Virtue, Diligence, and Brotherly Love and strive to become balanced.

Again, I appreciate your time, and I look forward to working with you all.

John Owed '10

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## Alumni Memories

Do you have a memory you'd like to see posted in the newsletter? Visit [www.ohioeta.com](http://www.ohioeta.com) and leave a message for your brothers. A handful will be selected for upcoming newsletters.

One of the great times was inviting your date, pinplant, or finance to Sunday dinner after church. Coat and tie were required. It was an evening of plain, solid conversation and always the introduction to Mom Ditmer, the house mother. These dinners would have fit right in with the Balanced Man Program.

Submitted by Jim Wilson '58

In 1978 or 79 Doug Nabhan '77, Bob Lanham '77 and I were at our very humble dining room table in Richmond and we were hanging spoons off our noses. Then about five years ago we recreated the picture down to Doug's place at the shore. Can't wait to see everyone at this upcoming Reunion/Event in the tent!

Submitted by Shawn McKenna '77



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## Alumni Invited to Fourth Annual Birdies and Burgers Golf Outing

The 4th annual Birdies and Burgers golf outing will take place on April 19th at 10 a.m. Last year's golf outing was a huge success with a large number of seniors spending quality time with SigEp alumni. This year, the chapter hopes to host even more alumni at the event. More details to come concerning plans for the outing. Notice of dates and reservation information will be given around late January or early February. For further details, please contact **Aaron Rohe '10** at [RoheAD@muohio.edu](mailto:RoheAD@muohio.edu) or (330) 347-6236. More details will follow via U.S. mail and e-mail.

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## Brothers Encouraged to Join Efforts for Leave Your Legacy Campaign

As the Leave Your Legacy campaign continues, Campaign Chairman **James "Sarge" Wilson '58** is encouraging brothers to join efforts in purchasing bricks. His goal is to increase the number of names displayed on the bricks. Sarge also suggests considering adding the name of a brother who has passed away to the brick.

If five brothers join forces to contribute a \$3,000 brick, the contribution costs would be reduced to \$200 each over the next three years. Each brother would also have the option of a one time payment of \$600. Likewise for a \$1200 brick shared between two brothers. These options allow for the last line on the brick to display a memory of dedication from the contributors.

Wilson added that Roger Joslin '58 has committed \$10,000 to the campaign and will include a memory dedication to Bill Nelson '58 on his brick. "We will be pushing hard during the first half of 2008 to complete the project goal of \$200,000. We are currently nearly half of the way home," said Wilson.

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## Buy a Brick Online & Help Keep SigEp Top at Miami

All across the country, there are reports and news stories about the housing crisis hitting millions of Americans. Variable, low interest rate loans helped many people obtain homes they are now finding it difficult to afford.

The Ohio Eta Chapter, like so many families and small businesses, is impacted by this housing crisis. In fact, SigEp must refinance its \$785,000 mortgage in 2008.

When the fraternity refinances its mortgage, the interest rate will be much higher than the one it originally obtained in 2003. To afford the new mortgage payment that will come with the higher interest rate, SigEp must make a sizeable principal payment. Roughly \$200,000 is required.

"If we can pay down at least \$200,000 worth of the mortgage, our monthly payment will remain the same," explained alumni treasurer **Dan McKenzie '74**. "If we can't pay down the debt, we'll be placing the active chapter at a competitive disadvantage because we'll have no choice but to substantially raise dues and rents and make it very expensive to be a SigEp at Miami."

To help raise the additional housing payment that is needed, Ohio Eta is **conducting a brick campaign in an effort to raise money** from all actives, alumni, parents and friends.

Individuals, families or groups can purchase a brick for \$10,000, \$5,000, \$3,000 and \$1,200. In most cases, donors can spread their payments out

over one to five years. Donors can permanently leave their mark on the SigEp house by having a classic 4" x 8" or 8" x 8" brick paver engraved with their name or the names of several brothers. Engraved bricks will fill the "Garden of Bricks" outside of the chapter house.

Alumni and friends can learn more about the program and purchase a brick online by visiting <http://www.ohioeta.com> and clicking on the Alumni links.

When SigEp is ready to order the bricks later this year, members of the Alumni Board will contact donors to finalize their brick inscription information.

**As of January 14, 2008, 44 individuals have already stepped forward to purchase a brick.**

**"We've already raised more than \$81,000 toward our \$200,000 goal,"** said brick campaign chairman **Jim "Sarge" Wilson '58**. "If you buy our \$1,200 brick, you can pay just \$50 a month over the two-year pledge period. You can write us a check or tell us to charge your credit card each month. We'll accommodate your situation. I think most brothers can afford \$50 a month. And, that small gift will have a big impact on the fraternity . . . now, when we refinance the mortgage and for many years to come."



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## Minutes from December Alumni Board Meeting

Alumni and members in attendance for the December 2nd meeting were **Dan McKenzie '74, Herb Glasgow '74, Mark Durket '76, Adam Ring '05, John Owed '09, Adam Altman '10, and Graham Mitchell '73**.

A future discussion will be held with the active chapter and the board to determine if officer terms should follow the academic year or calendar year. This is a complicated issue and impacts officers living in the house for their entire term. The decision is also affected by how the university support and training system is set up.

**Herb Glasgow '74** presented the house update. He reported that the house looked much better when he inspected it over the break than in previous years. He also said that recent insurance and fire inspection issues had all been resolved. Evacuation directions are being added in each room and in various other locations throughout the house. There is a need for a big push to get leases signed for the next academic year starting August 2008.

**Dan McKenzie '74** provided the financial update and reported that 25 rent checks were received for the spring semester. There are

enough funds to pay off the second mortgage loan to National of approximately \$24,000.

**Dan McKenzie '74** outlined the proposal, **Herb Glasgow '74** made the motion, and **Mark Durket '76** seconded it. The proposal passed without opposition. This will eliminate this portion of the debt and put the chapter in a better position to renegotiate the big loan of approximately \$875,000 with Eaton Bank in 2008. Great job to **Dan McKenzie '74** and **Mark Durket '76** for completing this part of the debt reduction strategy.

**Graham Mitchell '73** presented the fundraising update. He reported that **Jim "Sarge" Wilson '58** has secured a \$10,000 pledge for the Leave Your Legacy brick campaign. He is waiting to hear from several other brothers on additional pledges.

**Adam Ring '05** reported on the active chapter. He believes the chapter is positioned well for a good recruiting season starting in January 2008. In other chapter news, officer elections were held in November.

## BROTHERS MAKING NEWS:

Please contact Brant Smith '01 at [smithbh2@yahoo.com](mailto:smithbh2@yahoo.com) or post your news at [www.ohioeta.com](http://www.ohioeta.com) if you have news you'd like to share.

December 11, 2007, Boston MA. Press Release

**RazorEdge Consulting and EPC Group** have formed a partnership to extend the Microsoft consulting services offered to RazorEdge clients and partners throughout the US and Canada. This partnership allows RazorEdge to deliver turnkey solutions to clients in need of enterprise portal development, knowledge management consulting and enterprise content management through EPC Group.

Headquartered in Houston, Texas, EPC Group is a leading provider of enterprise SharePoint implementations, content management solutions, Intranet redesign, knowledge management, and custom .NET applications. EPC Group specializes in the Microsoft enterprise platform and some of their consultants have earned Microsoft's prestigious MVP (Most Valuable Professional) award.

RazorEdge consultants assist companies in building high performance transactional ecommerce web sites based on Microsoft Enterprise Server technologies. Our consultants specialize in Microsoft Commerce Server based platform implementations. RazorEdge consultants provide enterprise class technology consulting solutions to the Fortune 500 and SMB s in the following areas:

- Business to Business and Consumer Retail Market
- Employer and Employee Job Board Search Market
- Fortune 500 Automotive Sales and Service Market
- Medical Supply and Distribution Reseller Market
- Technology Hardware/Software Reseller Market
- Fortune 500 Electronic Measurement Products and Services Market

**Rey Zabala '00** is the president of RazorEdge Consulting: [www.razoredge.com](http://www.razoredge.com)



## Obituary

The SigEp chapter sends it deepest regards to the family and friends of **Ed Kimball '54** who recently passed away after a long illness. Kimball had been active with the alumni and chapter for many years. He served on the executive board. Kimball held the chapter treasurer position at Ohio Eta and during the years when Operation Phoenix started. He was instrumental in efforts to get a new house for SigEp at Miami. Many thanks to Kimball for his dedication to the chapter and his fellow brothers.



Help us keep our alumni records up-to-date! Edit your member profile online at <http://www.ohioeta.com>, or clip this form, place it in a stamped envelope and send to:  
Sigma Phi Epsilon, Ohio Eta #527,  
PO Box 2187, Columbus, GA 31902.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Sigma Phi Epsilon  
Miami University (#527)  
P.O. Box 2187  
Columbus, GA 31902-2187

