

THE ETA NEWS

OHIO ETA CHAPTER • SIGMA PHI EPSILON
MIAMI UNIVERSITY • SPRING 2010



Upcoming Alumni Events

All alumni and friends are invited to the following events. For more information, about any of them, visit www.ohioeta.com.

Burgers & Birdies -

Senior & Alumni Golf Outing

Saturday, April 17, 2010, at Hueston Woods
Tee times from 12:32 p.m. to 1:20 p.m.

Cookout and gathering before at 11:30 a.m.
and after at 5:00 p.m.

RSVP with **Sean Wallace '11** at
(614) 596-1353.

Miami University Alumni Weekend

June 17-20, 2010

Celebrating the classes of 1950, 55, 60, 65,
70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 00, 05

Additional information is also available at
www.miamialum.org.

Event-In-The-Tent IX

Saturday, June 19, 2010

Class Reunions - 1960, 1970, 1975, 1980,
1985 and 2000

Contact **Mark Durket '76** at
mdurket@rsanet.com
or (513) 520-3773.

Local Alumni Events:

Cleveland Event

Friday, May 7, 2010

Happy Hour 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

25380 Miles Road - Winking Lizard
Cleveland, OH

Contact **Brant Smith '01** at (440) 773-6724

Columbus Event

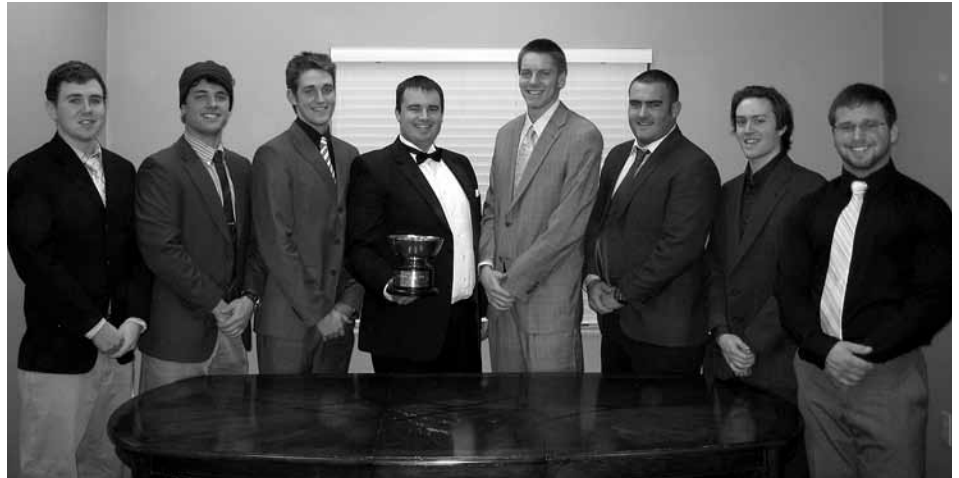
Volunteer needed

Contact **Brant Smith '01** at (440) 773-6724

Cincinnati Event

Contact **Mark Durket '76** at (513) 520-3773

BUCHANAN CUP #11



Executive Officers pose with the chapter's newest Buchanan Cup they received at the 2009 SigEp Conclave in Orlando, Florida.

The mantel above the Ohio Eta fireplace got a little more crowded this summer after the chapter won its 11th Buchanan Cup from the Sigma Phi Epsilon National Headquarters.

SigEp only awards Buchanan Cups to chapters that achieve excellence in all areas of operation over a two-year period. It is the most-coveted award any SigEp chapter can receive.

Brothers **Jim Anter '10** and **Dan Swarmstedt '10** happily accepted the Cup on behalf of the chapter during the Balanced Man Rewards Dinner at

the Hard Rock in Universal Studios, Orlando, Florida.

"When they called Miami University Ohio Eta, I had to have been the happiest person on the face of this planet," said Swarmstedt. "Walking up on the stage and shaking the hand of the Grand Chapter President made me realize why I joined SigEp and how much everyone in the chapter put into winning it."

During its 60-year history, Ohio Eta has won 11 cups, tying them for 4th most in overall wins.

2009: 60 years at Miami, 11 Buchanan Cups, 1 Common Thread

Dozens of alumni returned to Oxford, Ohio last June to celebrate sixty years of Sigma Phi Epsilon at Miami University. Through the six

decades, Ohio Eta has pinned and produced nearly 1,600 brothers, and they've won eleven Buchanan Cups.

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2010 Ohio Eta Executive Board

Matt Frazier '11
President
Chagrin Falls, OH

Greg Diddel '11
VP of Programming
Greenwich, CT

Kyle Hallion '11
VP of Finance
Louisville, KY

Kyle Hetrick '12
Chaplain
Cincinnati, OH

Adam Atallah '11
VP of Membership Development
Cincinnati, OH

Sean Wallace '11
VP of Communications
Columbus, OH

Matt Ressmeyer '12
VP of Recruitment
San Diego, CA

Joe Poyma '11
VP of Operations
Cleveland, OH

Alumni communication support and assistance provided by
Omega Financial, Inc.
(800) 955-ALUM (2586)
OmegaAlumniServices.com

National Rankings at 60 Years

BUCHANAN CUPS WINS

- 1) Oregon Alpha - 20
- 2) Nebraska Alpha - 15
- 3) Illinois Gamma - 13
- 4) Ohio Eta - 11
- 4) Missouri Theta - 11
- 6) Delaware Alpha - 8
- 7) Ohio Iota - 8

NUMBER OF ALUMNI PINNED

- 1) Florida Alpha - 2074
- 2) Texas Alpha - 2007
- 3) Indiana Beta - 1862
- 4) Indiana Alpha - 1834
- 5) Alabama Alpha - 1664
- 6) Colorado Gamma - 1661
- 7) Nebraska Alpha - 1656
- 8) Florida Epsilon - 1602
- 9) Indiana Gamma - 1592
- 10) Ohio Eta - 1573
- 11) Oregon Alpha - 1538
- 12) Washington Beta - 1489

31 New Members Join SigEp

After a hectic Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of rush week, Ohio Eta welcomed 31 new members into its ranks. These 31 members come from nine different states with nearly 20 different academic majors.

Vice President of Recruitment **Matt Ressmeyer '12** commented on the class saying, "The entire chapter is very happy with our rush results. We had a great selection of men who came through the house, and we

were able to select men who reflect the values that SigEp promotes. We found men that not only meet our expectations for our fraternity, but men that will help these expectations grow throughout the years."

Year after year, Ohio Eta consistently has one of the largest group of interested members visit the chapter, and one of the largest new member classes.

2010 New Member Class Roster:

Mike Anter
Nick Capello
Paul Carey
Joe Collieran
Taylor Corbett
Ryan Costello
Sam Dragul
Rick Duffield

Jayce Duquette
Andrew Flannery
Brandon Francis
Erik Hardek
Cam Harter
John Hickerson
Scott Irwin
Jack Korte

Ryan Lambie
Alex Lukic
Chris Mackey
Evan Merle
Hap Murphy
Jake Ohnmeis
Curt Olsen
Joe O'Toole

Mitch Quarfot
Luke Regole
JM Rieger
Ryan Rospert
Patrick Trabold
Sam Wildeman
Alex Wirt

60 Years at Miami

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(From left) Harold Redden '50, Bob Albright '51 and Darrell Landis '53.

Asked what makes Ohio Eta so successful, long-time chapter advisor and mentor **Doc Gordon '57** summed it up by saying, "Attitude."

"We've had our ups and downs," explained Gordon, "but SigEp is a special place and whether you were there in the 1950s or 2000s, there is an attitude among these men that permeates the chapter and attracts other men of character who know how to get the job done and have some fun along the way."

Fun may have been the unofficial theme of the reunion weekend as five different SigEp classes held mini-reunions within the larger anniversary celebration.

The class of 1959, for example, held their 50th anniversary dinner at the Marcum Center on June 17, 2009. **Harry Thomalla '59** coordinated an event that brought together many long-time friends.

Harold "Hal" Redden '50 organized special activities for the Founding Class of 1949. For many of those who attended, it was the first time they had a chance to see the new SigEp Residential Learning Community. The chapter opened the house to all alumni for an Open House on Saturday, June 20, 2009.

All of these special SigEp anniversary celebrations occurred in conjunction with the University's Bicentennial Celebration.

SigEp Takes Second in Football Championship

The SigEp intramural football team finished the season narrowly losing in the championship game. The team lost only one other time this season.

"We had a young team and look forward to being very competitive in the next couple years," said junior **Adam Atallah '11**.

Senior **Jim Anter '10** played an integral role on the team before he injured his knee during the regular season. Anter was disheartened that he could not participate in the playoffs during his senior year but has a positive outlook for SigEp in the future seasons. "We will win the championship next year, I'm sure of it," said Anter.

Senior Helps Organize Golf Charity Event for Oxford Family

Senior **Eric Anderson '10** is co-chairing the 3rd Annual Farmer Golf Classic, a student-run charity tournament organized by honors business students. This year's event, on April 24, 2010, hopes to

raise \$30,000 for the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity. Alumni interested in participating or sponsoring the event should contact Anderson at andersej@muohio.edu or (419) 290-7534.

SigEp Junior Receives Internship with Deloitte Consulting

Junior **Eric Niederhelman '11**, the SigEp house advisor recently learned that he is one out of more than 200 applicants to receive a summer internship with Deloitte Consulting in Cleveland. The Miami Business

School considers it more challenging to be hired for this internship than it is to get than a full time position with the company. Niederhelman follows **Aaron Rohe '10** who held the same position last year.

Handshakes & Applause for the Chapter

- 120 active brothers - 12th overall in terms of chapter size.
- Second highest on campus grade point average, Fall 2009.
- 3.18 GPA - top 20 percent of all SigEp chapters nationwide.
- First place, Division I Fraternity Intramurals - current champions.
- Brothers involved with campus honor societies, professional fraternities, mock trial, student advisory councils, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and the Campus Activity Council.
- Brothers work with WMSR, the student-run radio station, the Yearbook, *The Odyssey*, the Greek newspaper on campus, *UP Fashion Magazine* and the *Miami Student*.
- Brothers play an integral role in Campus Crusade for Christ and Greek LIFE, a Christian ministry on campus for members of the Greek community.



The SigEp football team takes a break before their championship game.



Event in the Tent 2009, 60th Anniversary.



Formal 2009.



Immediately after winning the 11th Buchanan Cup.

ΣΦΕ



Financial Snapshot

By Dan McKenzie '74

We concluded 2009 in healthy financial shape. During the year, we continued to enjoy the benefits of having renegotiated the mortgage in August 2008, and we reduced the outstanding principal balance from \$804,788 to \$784,083.

Our biggest financial challenge resulted from the University's new sophomore living requirements that took effect in the fall. Uncertainty over the details and implementation of the new requirements resulted in a house at less than full capacity. This year, 33 brothers, rather than the customary 40, live in the house. Fewer residents resulted in a significant decrease in rental income. The active chapter worked with the Alumni Board and covered a significant portion of the shortfall. Thankfully, we'll have a full house next school year.

In addition, the House is no longer brand new. We opened it in the Fall of 2004 and are in the middle of its fifth year. We have reached the point where we need to begin spending additional resources for maintenance, new paint and replacing some of the carpet. In addition, alumni contributions have fallen dramatically as pledges to the initial Campaign for Ohio Eta are now virtually all fulfilled. Nevertheless, we do not anticipate having to dip into our emergency reserves, which have grown to more than \$117,000.



Fundraising Propels Excellence and Provides Security for Ohio Eta

Fundraising . . . it seems like it's a regular activity at Sigma Phi Epsilon. Since 1994, Ohio Eta has raised nearly \$984,677 from alumni, parents, actives and friends. This generosity has propelled the fraternity to new levels of excellence.

The original housing campaign and the later efforts to support the Alumni & Friends Association have kept SigEp alive and its alumni connected.

"We began focusing our fundraising efforts on what was then a plan to build a new house," explained VP-Housing **Herb Glasgow '74**. "This effort raised more than \$800,000, and during the process we saw a lot of alumni take a renewed interest in the fraternity."

Most donors to the new house campaign set up pledges they would pay over a five-year period. Ninety percent (90%) of these pledges are now fully paid. Except for a handful of gifts, this campaign and the collection process is virtually over.

Anticipating this reality, two years ago the alumni leadership initiated an effort where alumni can purchase an engraved brick that they will place along the exterior walkways and patios of the house. Funds raised from brick sales provide ongoing maintenance and upkeep for the chapter house that is now five years-old.

Soon after the formal housing campaign ended, the Alumni &

Volunteer Corporation developed a long-term plan to continue the alumni outreach and momentum they started while building the house. They formed the Alumni & Friends Association to involve and recognize alumni for their role in the fraternity.

Sending alumni newsletters and holding quality alumni events are activities often overlooked by undergraduates focused on their studies, rush and the pressures, rigors and fun of college life. The alumni board of trustees helps protect and perpetuate alumni interests, but they rely on continued generosity and support from alumni to maintain the program each year.

"There's no question that alumni contributions have a direct impact on the success of our fraternity," said Alumni President **Graham Mitchell '73**. "We try to be good stewards of the funds alumni entrust to us by investing in the long-term security of the chapter, carefully managing the fraternity's finances and returning some benefits back to alumni through our events and other outreach efforts."

Alumni can continue to show their support for Ohio Eta by purchasing an engraved brick or supporting the Alumni & Friends Association by visiting www.ohioeta.com and clicking on the Alumni Association or Alumni News links.

Alumni Board of Trustees

Graham Mitchell '73
President
Herb Glasgow &
Kyle Statdmiller '74
VP - Housing
Mark Durket '76
VP - Resource Group
Cary Dice '73
VP - Relations

Dan McKenzie '74
VP - Financial
Operations
Brant Smith '02
VP - Alumni
Involvement
Bob Blackburn '64
Chapter Advisor

Trustees
Bob Albright '51
Frank Braun '81
Jason Chitwood '05
Dave Chittock '80
Joe Etter '73
Doc Gordon '57
Tom Sherr '78
Scott Shadrick '71

Jim Wilson '58
Brad Young '05
Joe Hornsby '06

Alumni interested in
serving on the Alumni
Board of Trustees should
contact **Mark Durket '76**
at mdurket@rsanet.com.

Brother to Brother

Doc Gordon '57 sent the following note about **Eric "Tuna Fish" Anderson '71**: "I just spoke with Eric 'Tuna Fish' Anderson '71. He's been diagnosed with terminal prostate cancer. His son, E.J., a member of the SigEp class of 2010, graduates in May. Fish is determined to be there. I thought many would want to know. Tuna has been a marvelous SigEp and a brother we all loved during his undergraduate years. I am sad to learn of his illness and will hold him in my prayers. Tuna is one of the outstanding young men we had in the '70s, and now is the time to pull for him. If there is anything that can be done for him, now is the time to step up as a fraternity and lend any assistance we can. Cards of concern and care should be sent to his address: 2117 Longacre, Holland, OH 43258."



Fernando Belli '01 plans to marry Rebecca Caldwell in New Jersey this August.

Joseph Daly '03 has been married a few years and has a 19 month old daughter named Maggie Rose. Daly lives on a farm where he loves the acreage but hates mowing it.

Zachary Walter Gaver '08 is in his second year of law school at Capital Law School in Columbus, OH.

Do you have news you'd like to share with your brothers? Post interesting information about yourself online at www.ohioeta.com or send them to **Brant Smith '02** at smithbh2@yahoo.com. Did you recently get married? Have a baby? Change jobs? Retire? Let us know. Post your news today.

Bob Borchers '72 Passes Away

At age 59, **Robert "Bob" Borchers '72** suddenly passed away on December 12, 2009, from a heart attack.

Known as "Mr. B." to many of his students, Borchers retired in 2006 after 29 years at Hardin-Houston Local Schools, where he taught fifth grade (specializing in math and social studies) and continued as elementary principal for ten years. Borchers also worked as a painting contractor, owning and operating Bob Borchers Painting Company since 1980.

An avid sports fan, he coached Houston High School varsity baseball for several years and remained involved as an umpire.

Individuals interested in making a donation in his memory should contribute to the Houston Outdoor Athletic Complex by following the instructions at www.houston.k12.oh.us/hacc.

A copy of his obituary is at www.gehretfuneralhome.com.



The Distinguished Gentleman of the Alumni Hall of Fame: Bob Albright '51, Joe Etter '73, Herb Glasgow '74, Doc Gordon '57 and Jim Wilson '58. Placards not pictured: Richard Puzzitiello Sr. '57 and Richard Puzzitiello Jr. '84.



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

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

Name _____
 Graduation Year _____
 Address _____

 City/State/Zip _____
 Phone _____
 E-mail _____



MIAMI
UNIVERSITY
 OXFORD OHIO

Mark Your Calendars:

April 17:

Burgers & Birdies - Senior & Alumni
 Golf Outing
 RSVP with **Sean Wallace '11** at (614)
 596-1353.

May 7:

Ohio Eta Alumni Night in Cleveland

June 17 - 20:

Miami University Alumni Weekend

June 19:

Event-in-the-Tent IX and Reunions for
 the Classes of 1960, 1970, 1975, 1980,
 1985 and 2000.
 RSVP with **Mark Durket '76** at (513)
 520-3773.

All alumni and friends are invited. For
 more information, about any of these
 events, see page one or visit www.ohioeta.com.



SigEps from '99-'00 reunite in Charlotte, Summer 2009. In attendance (Left to Right): Fernando Belli '01, Ryan McCarrihan '99, Rey Zabala '00 and Brian Bierne '99. Not pictured - Steve Duzak '99 and Baird Harper '99.



Class reunion at a past Event in the Tent gathering.

Visit www.ohioeta.com

Visit www.ohioeta.com - the official Ohio Eta website to:

- Learn more about the chapter
- Search for alumni
- Update your address, phone number and e-mail address
- Find out about upcoming events
- Post noteworthy accomplishments (a new baby, a recent marriage, a recent promotion, etc.)
- Buy a brick to be placed on the grounds of the house

