



PIKES' PEAK

PI KAPPA ALPHA • MIAMI UNIVERSITY • SPRING 2012

DELTA GAMMA SETS SIGHTS ON SMYTHE AWARD FOR CHAPTER EXCELLENCE

Dodd Hall Board of Trustees President **Terry Raulin '69** has asked that I write the president's column in this issue of *Pikes' Peak*. Let me begin by restating the "slug" of this column as Good News, Not So Good News. The good news is that the chapter is closing in on a Smythe award for chapter excellence. Its membership, 116, is at an all time high after 31 men were initiated during our fraternity's most solemn ceremony on March 16th. Scholarship, the first and most important aspect of SLAG, has improved tremendously thanks in part to a superb executive council, study tables, actives, and pledges who understand the inherent purpose of college and the tireless efforts of Jerry Miller, our academic advisor. Jerry uses positive reinforcement, guile, and motivation for the undergraduate brothers to pursue and achieve academic excellence. He's a proactive Tom Sawyer getting the fence painted.

The house is full of brothers, translating to more funds to undertake further necessary maintenance projects and capital improvements as well as some which merely increase the "fun" coefficient of house life. The days of 16 out of 60+ brothers vying for a spot in one of the four rooms of 230 E. Church St. are a distant memory. Campus Leadership, athleticism, and gentlemanliness have taken quantum leaps since the dark ages of the early '90s. All of this translates to enhanced desirability for future years of rush. Remember when the Betas were known for their high G.P.A.? Soon it will be Pikes known for their scholarship!

More GREAT news! Since its inception in the fall of 2004, our semi-annual solicitations have brought in more than \$118,000 from 288 donors. We have been blessed with two members of the Founders Society (\$5,000 and above), four members of the Sabre & Key Society (\$2,000-\$4,999), 61 members of the Shield & Diamond Society (\$500-\$1,999), 61 members of the Garnet & Gold Society (\$250-\$499), 110 members of the Oak Society (\$100 to \$249), and 50 members of the PKA Society (up to \$99). This overwhelming generosity on the part of the alumni has underwritten a long list of house improvements: renovation of our fire truck, a dedicated study room, new bathrooms/guest powder room on three floors, fencing in the back courtyard, a closed-circuit security camera system installed, back-lighted ΠΚΑ letters on the front of the house, Donna's Cafe, new chapter (green) room doors, broadband internet minus the kinks in the hose supplying the data stream (Hey, I never said I was a techie/nerd!). The undergraduate members of Delta Gamma as well as the Trustees of Dodd Hall sincerely appreciate this continuing demonstration of loyalty and generosity by the alumni brothers.

The not so good news is that there are 1,646 roll numbers of potential alumni. We've had 132 brothers enter Chapter Eternal. We have approximately 932 alumni for whom the contact information appears current. Approximately 582 brothers are lost, either to Miami University alumni rolls, D.G.A.A., or national's records, despite my spending hundreds of hours doing web searches, our semi-annual mailings of bio updates, U.S.P.S. change of address notices, and having a Delta Gamma Alumni Association website (<http://www.deltagammaalumni.org>) or the national's website, (<http://pka.org/>) which make it easy to update contact info.

Essentially, 31% of the alumni brothers are carrying the load for the other 650 or so brothers for whom we have contact information. Even in difficult financial times, a small donation is as welcome as the large; it lets us know you remember the good times at Delta Gamma and care enough to stay in touch.

Which brings up another subject: alumni functions. We try to plan reunions for the enjoyment of the
(Continued on page 2)

582 Lost Brothers

Help us locate these alumni by asking your pledge brothers, "Are you registered?"

Summer Plans

- Upgrade front and side walkways
- Replace kitchen doors
- Seal and stripe parking lot
- Build an outdoor storage unit
- Reconfigure back of house into an outdoor living area with barbecue grill

Vail Miler Jr. '90 Saves Fire Truck

Vail volunteered to pay for our fire truck to be reconditioned and repainted. The City of Oxford is quite strict on these types of "yard ornaments." If they don't look respectable, removal is the next step. We got the "unrespectable" notice early this year. When Vail, who generously paid for the truck's renovation in 2006, heard this he quickly offered to foot the bill again. Believe me, it's not cheap to renovate a fire truck! Thank you, Vail!

Walter Frank '56 Challenges Alumni

A scholarship program for incoming freshman men is being designed and developed by **Bob Riebel '66**. The scholarship would serve to help recruitment, enhance the Greek system, and celebrate the ideals of Pi Kappa Alpha. Walter has graciously volunteered to match our scholarship amount. Thank you, Walter!



Terry Raulin '69 presents an appreciation plaque and check to House Manager Conor Byrne '11. "One of the hardest-working and least-appreciated officers," says Terry.

SIGHTS ON SMYTHE AWARD

(Continued from page 1)

maximum number of brothers. We've reached a point of diminishing returns, literally and figuratively. Fewer and fewer brothers are coming back to Miami for school functions, Alumni Weekend, Homecoming, or Delta Gamma events such as reunions or golf outings. The few who *have* come back had a GREAT time with brothers who were integral in their fraternity experience. It's a strange feeling for me having to talk brothers into having fun! I recently drove back to Dayton for my 50th high school reunion. No one had to convince me to attend—there will never be another one.

One last thank-you and appeal: to my fellow Dodd Hall Trustees, THANK YOU from the bottom of my heart for your time and efforts. We wouldn't be where we are without your input and assistance. Special thanks to **Bob Riebel '66**, who, after decades doing a yeoman's job as chapter advisor/plant engineer, has turned the reins of adviser over to **Matt Ryan '01**. The flip side of the coin: we need newer and younger blood on Dodd Hall.

Although each *Pikes' Peak* newsletter asks for alumni to get more involved, only one brother has filled out the form and sent it in. One of my goals has been to bring video conferencing to Dodd Hall. We have started to do just that, so proximity to Oxford is not a requirement. In the fall, we will highlight our newest trustee, **Greg Hardwick '68**, a CPA from Atlanta. Call or e-mail me if you have a skill which can be used in mentoring the undergraduates or just miss the scenic drive to Oxford.

If you haven't done so already, and the majority have not, please register on the website. Registering will enable you to access our DG database. If you haven't talked with your big/little brother in decades, look him up and call him. Unregistered alumni can still surf the website to read old *Pikes' Peaks*, see old composite photographs, hear Pike songs or the tones of the Beta Bells.



Phi, phi, kappa, alpha
Dr. Roger Harris '62
President DGAA/VP Dodd Hall
wholetooth@aol.com

Please Visit
DeltaGammaAlumni.org
and Register Today!

We could use your assistance in maintaining an accurate database. Please take a moment today to register at www.DeltaGammaAlumni.org and update your contact information. There's a lot to enjoy while you're there. From looking up old pledge brothers, browsing chapter composites and recent pictures, to viewing previous *Pikes' Peak* newsletters and reading about Pike history, there's plenty to bring back those fond PIKA memories and update you on Delta Gamma today. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU, LOYAL ANNUAL CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTORS

Over the last few months you, our alumni, have continued to make us extremely proud on several donation levels. Our fall 2011 campaign successfully netted \$6,915 from 69 donors, almost the entire amount needed to upgrade our wireless internet system. Thanks to those donors, most of the improvements have now been made. The following is a list of contributors to Delta Gamma's annual campaign. Especially generous donations were made by **Jon Marinelli '88**, **William Snyder '63**, **Clair Howey '54**, **Edward Jarosz Jr. '79**, **Joel Givner '73**, **Robert Siravo '62**, and **Greg Hardwick '68**. If an error has been made in recording the amount of your gift, or if we have mistakenly omitted your gift, we sincerely apologize. If a correction to your giving record is needed, please send it to Dodd Hall Inc., P.O. Box 8437, West Chester, OH 45069.

Thank you for your generosity to Delta Gamma Chapter!

Founders Society (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Walter C. Frank '56
Vail K. Miller Jr. '90

Sabre & Key Society (\$2,000 to \$4,999)

* Ronald H. Fanning '54
* John O. Amos II '59
* Robert F. Howard '61
* Dr. Roger J. Harris '62

Shield & Diamond Society (\$500 to \$1,999)

Constance Beeken
John L. Akerman '47
* Walter R. Haines Jr. '47
* Eric P. McCarty '48
* Byron E. Armstrong '49
* Richard L. Loveland '49
* James E. Wanner '49
* Douglas S. Gardner '51
* Bradford S. Prokop '51
* Kenneth P. Weiler '53
* Bruce W. Comings '54
* Clair E. Howey '54
* Robert W. Walker '53
* Thomas G. Harvey Jr. '55
* Louis A. Kindelberger Jr. '57
* Edward F. Metzler '59
* Richard C. Schroeder '59
* Edward M. Huetten Jr. '61
* Richard Randall Jr. '62
* Robert A. Siravo '62
* William H. Snyder '63
* David J. Yount '63
* Donald M. Embler '64
* Raymond J. Gregory '64
* James G. Stevens '64
* Daniel C. Graf '66
* Robert G. Riebel '66
* Dr. Roger J. Harper '67
* Martin J. Kubik '67
* James D. Robinson '67

* Dr. Daniel L. Weinstein '67
* Christopher Burger '68
* Gregory G. Hardwick '68
* William H. Dubiel '69
* Monte M. Murrell '69
* Lawrence W. O'Brien '69
* Terrance A. Raulin '69
* Jack E. Horrell '70
* Kenneth R. Krivanek '70
* Jeffrey S. Lynn '70
* Steven W. Rohe '71
* Craig L. Uebele '72
* Joel E. Givner '73
* Jeffrey F. Tremaine '73
* Keith R. Crichton '74
* Alan E. Fahrenheit '74
* Robert S. Guarnieri '74
* Michael D. Harrington '74
* Michael L. Stebbins '74
* Mark J. Jost '75
* Ronald J. Bachman '78
* David M. Grodhaus '78
* Kelly S. Jones '78
* Donald O. Link '78
* John S. Staudt '78
* Thomas H. Carruth '79
* Samuel J. Flannery '80
* Robert P. Finneccy '81
* David S. Eberly '82
* Brian V. Pero '82
* Daniel W. Kunkemoeller '84
* Michael T. McConkey '91
* James L. Fancher '97
* Brendan W. Caver '99

Garnet & Gold Society (\$250 to \$499)

* Robert G. Haddenhorst '47
* Elliott B. Hodgdon '48
* Donald T. Jameson '49
* Harold W. Jasper '49
* Calvin Davison '50
* James A. Sweeney '50
* Jack W. Hallberg '51
* Richard R. Jencen '51
* Russell R. Rausch '51

Chapter Eternal

* Richard C. Eisenbrei '52
* Robert J. Gillis '53
John A. Balch '54
Paul S. Phillips Jr. '55
Jay A. Severance '55
Jack F. Southard '58
* Kenneth A. Bartlett Jr. '59
* Thomas R. Bollenbacher '60
* Howard E. Holden '60
* David W. Colegrove '62
Daniel L. Wolfe '62
Bruce D. Brown '64
Paul W. Staab '64
* Jack B. West '64
Carl J. Wintersteller '64
Thomas A. Dutt '67
Howard E. Emmons '67
Ronald E. Lis '67
John W. Liebersbach '68
* Jeffrey W. Johnson '69
Ronald F. Kosey '69
Lonn D. Skiles '69
Mark Stratis '69
Frederic A. Szumlic '69
* David H. Cummins '70
Robert P. Drew '70
* Donald L. Howell II '70
Joseph A. Saxe '70
Robert M. Crassweller '73
* Scott J. Braunschweig '75
* Jonathan P. Hein '75
Richard L. Sheer '75
Paul N. Thomas '75
Joseph P. Ferry '76
John E. Hummler '77
* Mark M. Kochert '77
Joseph P. Cosgrove '79
Jon E. Gunnerson '79
* Edward C. Jarosz Jr. '79
Brian T. Joenk '79
* Ray J. Vintilla '80
Robert W. Bertog '81
Thomas E. Lavin '81
Tim A. Miller '81
Lawrence A. DiDomenico '82
Jeffrey B. Stohr '82
John R. Henke '83
* Jamie G. Marsh '83
* Jon R. Marinelli '88
James R. Sullivan '89
Thomas J. Larsen '92
Michael W. Miller '98
Harold T. Sauerbrei '05

Oak Society (\$100 to \$249)

Richard J. Bennett '47
Marshall Mowrey '47
George H. Zimmerman '48
Hon. Earl E. Borradaile '49
Earl W. Gascoigne '49
Frank J. Herbert '49
* James H. Maynard Jr. '49
Miles W. Donaldson '50
Robert N. Herschelman '50
Raymond J. Kosiba '50
* Richard Blankenbecler '51
George W. Ligothke '51
Herman N. Menapace '51
Jerry T. Walker '51
Jack L. Starkey '52

* J. William Maynard '53
Gerald E. McOmber '53
* Harry J. O'Rourke '53
Lowell R. Shook '53
Donald C. Goetzmann '54
* Robert E. Arnold '55
Ronald N. Czadzeck '55
Vance A. Smith '56
Dr. Maynard A. Faris '57
Barry D. Goloboff '57
Gary H. Albrecht '58
Thomas R. LaPorte '58
* Douglas Marker '58
Lundie L. Sherretz '58
Victor F. Tekanic '58
Thomas V. Belkis '59
Frederick O. Jolley '59
James P. Meyer '59
Steven L. Hackett '60
Gary M. Snyder '61
Timothy Y. Tomsen '61
William D. Johnson '62
Leonard L. Lovshin '62
Gus Pachis Jr. '62
Matthew A. Klein '63
* Richard C. Knapp Jr. '63
Robert F. Krainz '63
William L. Gould '64
* Gary M. Sedam '64
Bruce E. Fowler '65
* James A. Doubrava '66
Timothy A. Dimengo '67
* Ronald J. Zera '67
* J. Rick Baxter '69
Michael R. Burlovich '69
James W. Rowe '69
James C. Stebbins '69
Ronald J. Hiron '70
Edward G. Koch '70
James L. Morrow '70
Ronald D. Donnett '71
Melvin D. Leibsla '72
S. D. Bailey '73
Gerard J. Boerger '74
David B. Graham '74
Eric G. Leininger '74
* William P. McGuire '74
Mark D. Rosen '74
Randall J. Bachman '75
Kenneth C. Baker '75
* H. P. Bender '75
John M. Markovich '75
Mark L. Riemann '75
* Jason T. Rusk '75
Daniel M. Bratys Sr. '76
* Jeffrey S. Goodall '76
* Richard D. Trimpe '76
Charles A. Wilson '76
* John W. Zimmerman '76
* David E. Yensen '77
Andrew J. DeSollar '78
Steven D. Miller '78
Frederick S. Allen '79
* Terrence M. Howe '79
Dr. Michael E. Joyce '79
* John W. Nuck '79
John J. Schueth '79
Wayne J. Vespoli '79
Bob Brnilovich '81
Thomas D. Moline '81
Robert L. Potts Jr. '81

Fred J. Bartuch Jr. '82
Bradley E. Hughes '82
Kent M. Lucaccioni '82
Kenneth C. Tomsheck Jr. '82
Scott A. Wolfe '82
Lee A. Elliott '84
William T. Ross '84
Mark J. Crowley '89
Marc T. Mattingly '90
Paul G. Ghiz '92
Kenneth J. Marker '96

PKA Society (Up to \$99)

Willard G. Conner '43
John J. Hyer Jr. '48
Jewett J. Farman '50
Hon. Karl J. Parrish '50
Robert L. Phillips '50
John F. Terry '50
Leroy H. Hopper '51
Raymond C. Kley '51
George L. James '52
Stanley M. Massarelli '52
Lt. Col. Alan R. Stout '52
Eugene W. Wade '52
James B. Peters III '54
Larry N. Dupler '56
Lewis O. Thompson Jr. '56
John E. Baum '57
J. Richard McFarland, DDS '57
* James L. Schoonover '57
Daniel J. Rehor '58
Edmund C. Ansorg III '59
John W. Prothro '59
David E. Burkhead '60
Paul B. Swanson '61
Dale H. Jones '62
Roger W. Pryor '65
John M. Schwartz '65
Warren P. Rogers '66
* David G. Kennard '67
William H. McNally '69
Alexander H. Munro III '69
Stephen R. Redman '69
Gary A. Emblar '70
Ronald E. Hoffman '70
Michael A. Lipp '72
Peter A. Lisella '72
* Ronald J. Felgenhauer '73
B. David Hall '73
Stephen B. Moore '76
Paul J. Meyer '77
Mark W. Wonus '77
Kurt A. Cohen '79
Michael R. Resko '82
George Morris '84
Stephen R. Miller '85
Scott J. Gerbec '86
John S. McLandsborough '86
Michael T. Cicatiello '88
William R. Gardner '90
Craig S. Miller '90
Mark C. Newkirk '92
Brian Daniels '98
Ryan Salcido '00

* Donor to fall 2011 appeal

John Chiappori '47 entered Chapter Eternal on October 27, 2010, at Sunset House in Toledo, Ohio. He is survived by his wife, Alice, two daughters, and three grandchildren.

R. Webster MacKenzie '47 entered Chapter Eternal on May 19, 2011. He retired as an accomplished contractor and was a resident of Harbor Springs, Mich. Webb is survived by his wife of 35 years, Diane Kirby, and their sons, Robert and James.

Richard D. Arnott '48 entered Chapter Eternal on October 7, 2011. He retired in 1989 after more than 38 years with Nationwide Insurance. He was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Lou Follis, and is survived by his daughter, Kathi, and her husband Paul; son, Kirk, and his wife, Karen; grandson, Scott, and his wife, Kris; and great-grandson, Taylor.

Bernard L. Gregory '51 entered Chapter Eternal on October 28, 2011 at age 80. From 1956 to 1974 he served in the Air Force. Bernard then worked for APS and retired in 1991 after 15 years. He is survived by his wife, Daryle; sons: John, David, Michael, Lee, and Bill; granddaughters: Danielle, Lauren, and Ali; brother Neil Gregory; and stepchildren: Joyce, Paul, Lesley, Keith, and Dara.

Michael A. Dubuc '60 entered Chapter Eternal on July 29, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Judy, who says they both have great memories of Pi Kappa Alpha. Mike and Judy have two sons, Paul and John, and two grandsons.

PHILANTHROPY TOP FOCUS FOR DELTA GAMMA

Chapter Ranks Second in Recruitment Efforts—Membership at All-Time High

The spring semester has been productive for the Delta Gamma Chapter. In January we welcomed 35 new members through winter recruitment, ranking in the top three fraternities for membership and in first place for the school year. Along with recruitment, numerous pledge activities, philanthropies, academics, service events, and intramurals have kept the men of Pi Kappa Alpha quite busy.

After an impressive effort and commitment by our recruitment committee, formal recruitment went extremely well. We hosted cookouts, dinners known as Coke Dates, and the annual Blue Chip Dinner for the top 40 recruits. Thirty-six men joined our fall pledge class and helped us place second in all-fraternity recruitment rankings. **After initiation, we are the second largest fraternity on campus with more than 115 active members.**

Academics remain a major priority. The chapter holds a 3.04 G.P.A., which is above the all-male average of 2.93. Each year we raise our standards, making scholarship of utmost importance. A special thanks to Faculty Advisor Jerry Miller for offering his mentorship.

Active members also showed their competitive side, placing fourth out of 30 fraternities in Greek Week. In intramurals, our basketball and indoor soccer

leagues are poised to make the playoffs. We are excited to get back outside for the spring intramurals.

After last year, philanthropy and community service continue to be highlights of the Delta Gamma Chapter.

In the fall, we held our annual Pi Kappa Alpha and Kappa Delta Twister Tournament, raising more than \$2,000. Our philanthropic involvement continued in February as members participated in Delta Zeta's event, where each pledge class performed a dance routine in front of the entire Greek community. We look forward to our upcoming Community Service Day at the Knolls of Oxford retirement community. And in March, we partner again with Kappa Delta for the Paintbrawl event benefitting CancerFree Kids.

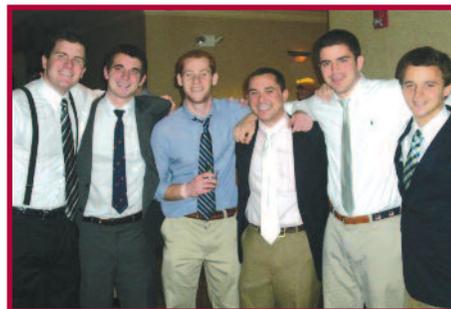
The support we receive from our Dodd Hall board of trustees, advisors, and alumni is invaluable. Thank you for helping make Delta Gamma one of the best chapters of Pi Kappa Alpha. This is the year for a Smythe!



In the bonds,
Patrick Byrne '10
Chapter President
(440) 813-8301
byrnepj@muohio.edu



Ross Simkins '09 and Kevin Nitsche '08 at Tailgate Town with Miami University President Hodge for Pike's annual Twister Tournament benefitting CancerFree Kids.



The 2011 executive board members at Firemen's Ball. From left: Patrick Byrne '10, Michael O'Horo '09, Brad Weprin '10, Ross Simkins '09, Nick Malatestinic '09, and Scott Burnette '10.



Members of the 2012 executive board. From left: Brad Weprin '10, Richard Hurley '10, Austin Hildebrandt '11, Pat Byrne '10, Patrick Ryan '11, Jack Pitts '10, and Jeff Miller '11.

President
Patrick Byrne '10
Perry, Ohio
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St. Louis, Mo.

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Winnetka, Ill.
(847) 337-0127
ryanph@muohio.edu

2012 CHAPTER OFFICERS

Welcome, New Members

Hugh Anderson / Ridgefield, Conn.

Nickas Antoniou / Barrington, Ill.

Carter Beil / Saline, Mich.

Thomas Byrne / Chicago, Ill.

Tom Campbell / Somers, N.Y.

Ryan Cole / Littleton, Colo.

Drew Cook / St. Paul, Minn.

Neal Eckstein / Cincinnati, Ohio

Andrew Fink* / Indianapolis, Ind.

Matt Gaughan / Elmhurst, Ill.

Noah Gilbert / Cincinnati, Ohio

Kyle Hatton / Upper Arlington, Ohio

Kyle Hopkins / Dayton, Ohio

Alec Hornecker / Atlanta, Ga.

Connor Keating / Bernardsville, N.J.

Niko Kondogianis / Chicago, Ill.

Travis Lesch / Bethesda, Md.

David Lichtenstein / Columbus, Ohio

Daniel Lieberman / Deerfield, Ill.

Tyler Marquardt / Eugene, Ore.

Jake Menker / Westerville, Ohio

Robert Minicucci / Buffalo, N.Y.

Pat Murphy / Dublin, Ohio

Charlie Ory / Seattle, Wash.

Dane Pierro / Columbus, Ohio

Nathan Sheffer / Upper Arlington, Ohio

Taylor Thomas / Lexington, Ohio

Sean Thum / Columbus, Ohio

Marc VanPuymbrouck / Chicago, Ill.

Andrew Wachter / Chicago, Ill.

Dave Wing / Naperville, Ill.

*Legacy

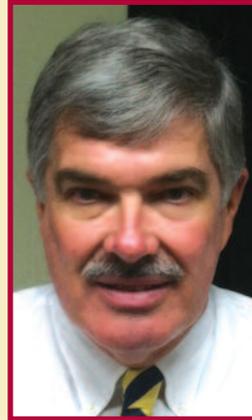
Delta Gamma Made Sweet Memories for Ron Hoffman '70

For many Pikes, Donna Churchman's cream puffs are one of the first and favorite memories to come to mind and **Ron Hoffman '70** is no exception. "Some time ago I was visiting the chapter and Donna recognized my voice, yelling, 'Hoff! If I knew you were coming I would've made cream puffs!'" He laughs knowing that others wished the same.

Delta Gamma satisfied Ron's sweet tooth and his desire to become a part of the Greek experience. "Being Greek was almost a procedure at Miami; it was just what you did." But it was Pi Kappa Alpha that felt right. The welcoming environment, Friday afternoon "beer blasts," and **Terry Raulin '69** as a Big Brother made for the perfect fit.

"The camaraderie of it all made for a valuable experience," he says. "I'd never lived with 45 guys before so it was a good social lesson and really positive experience. I'm happy I did it."

Ron graduated with a degree in political science and wanted a break from school, so he accepted a job at All State Insurance. "I realized real quick that I didn't want to make a career of that, so I went to law school." He worked as an assistant prosecutor for a few years before moving to a private practice, specializing in government and civil trial work. Ten years ago, he was nominated by the New Jersey governor and confirmed by



the state senate to become a superior court judge in the criminal division.

His free time is limited but he enjoys living near the beach with his wife of 38 years, Paula, who was his Little Sister at the fraternity. "And they say it's not a dating service," he teases. Ron and Paula reside in Toms River, New Jersey, but look forward to retiring to Hilton Head, South Carolina, a more central location to his children and their families.

Ron hopes that retiring will also allow for more time to reconnect with his pledge brothers and the active chapter. "It's been a long time since I've been to the house, but it would be great to see everything that's going on now." He and Paula are planning to attend the Ohio State game Labor Day weekend then travel to Oxford to see the chapter.

"Years ago, there was an alumni event broken down by classes and I wanted to attend but just wasn't able. There was an article in the following newsletter with a picture of familiar faces and it really made me wish I could've gone," he says. "I'm hoping that maybe this [article] is a way for me to get reacquainted and be more involved."

If you would like to reconnect with Ron, you may reach him at (732) 279-3250 or hizzonorr@hotmail.com.

Spotlight on Lewis O. Thompson '56

Through a long career in corporate business, marketing, business development, and public relations with major companies (Textron, EG&G, Martin Marietta, and GE Aircraft Engine), former U.S. Navy journalist **Lewis O. Thompson '56** has witnessed many iconic moments in history.

While with EG&G, Lew covered two space shuttle launches, witnessed underground nuclear testing, wrote articles about recovering space debris from the Challenger explosion, and wrote the news release covering the launch of the nuclear submarine U.S.S. Thresher. He also distinctly remembers being aboard the U.S.S. Independence aircraft carrier off the Cuban Coast when President Kennedy aborted the Bay of Pigs invasion at the last minute.



Now in retirement, Lew substitute teaches on occasion and previously taught business courses at Northeastern University. He enjoys playing tennis doubles and serving as president of Experience Unlimited, a non-profit organization that offers career planning and placement to people over the age of 50. He and his wife, Carole Ann, whom he met while stationed at the Boston Naval

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MIAMI MEMORIES

Richard L. Loveland '49: "In the late '40s and early '50s, Delta Gamma Chapter led all fraternities in grades and won numerous all-fraternity singing contests!"

David H. Straud '54: "1. Providing funds in 1956 to build a kitchen in the old house, in memory of my father's death. 2. Enjoying toasted rolls in 1955. 3. Enjoying the yearly song competition in 1954-57."

Robert E. Arnold '55: "Our chapter pet boxer, Dixie, used to cause quite a stir on date nights due to her peculiar habit of passing gas when the house was filled with brothers and their dates."

Ronald N. Czadzeck '55: "The crazy parties, especially the funeral party and serenades."

Thomas G. Harvey Jr. '55: "I remember the good times we had singing with **Dick Bottorf '53** at the piano, drinking beer, and eating pasta before chapter meetings. **Don Bartlett '54** was a party man but physics major with straight As. Never saw him study. Amazing!"

Lewis O. Thompson Jr. '56: "In 1956-57 I organized a calypso troupe of ukuleles, wash tub bass, maracas, and bongo drums from the brotherhood. We were well known in the sorority circles and made many appearances to sing Harry Belafonte songs, like 'Day-oh' and 'Banana Boat.'"

Del R. Griffin '57: "Great times with Big Brothers **Bob Vogt '54** and **Jerry Buerk '55**. Too many to pick a favorite."

Ronald E. Hoffman '70: "Beer blasts in the basement and cream puffs cooked by Donna Churchman."

Clifford A. Connaughton '78: "My favorite times at Delta Gamma were any that I was laughing, which was most of the time and definitely any time **Andy Desollar '78** entered the room. It's all about the fun, bros!"



PIKES' PEAK

Dodd Hall Inc.
P.O. Box 8437
West Chester, OH 45069

Address Service Requested

PRSR
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PERMIT #570

ATTENTION: *This newsletter is intended for Pi Kappa Alpha alumni and parents. If your son is still attending Miami University, he will receive a copy at the chapter house. If he is no longer in school, please send his permanent address to tarar@penningtonco.com. Thank you.*

Spotlight on Lewis O. Thompson '56

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Headquarters, live in Newburyport, Massachusetts. Lew stays in touch with Big Brother **Ron Czadzeck '55** and remembers longtime friend **Dick Bottorf '55**.

"All the Delta Gamma members welcomed me with open arms, and a friend from Iraq, **Sami al-Badir '56**, joined with me."

"To be a part of the fraternity was wonderful," he says. "You learn more about yourself through living with others. I was an only child growing up, and the sharing and caring life lessons are still important to me."

Lew is thankful for the many memories, even the time spent as a pledge. "I was assigned to wake up the brothers three days a week for a month," he says. "I had to be at the house at 6 a.m. to make the coffee, walk the dog, and wake

each brother, in 15-minute increments, by the tag he placed on the wake board."

He more fondly remembers the men winning an award in the Fraternity Chorus Competition with their Drunken Sailor song, being victorious during Greek Week's muddy tug-of-war, the Southern Gambling Party, and the Crib Party, where all attendees dressed as tots and drank from baby bottles. "Our theme parties were always a great hit on campus."

Lew enjoys connecting with brothers through class reunions, noting that it's great to visit the chapter as an alumnus and to share memories with the newer brothers. "There is pride in what the next generation is doing to prepare for their future." Reconnect with Lew at lewis.o.thompson@comcast.net.

**Would your
graduation class**

**like to have a reunion
or special alumni event?**

Pick a 5-6 year graduation span
(i.e. 1975-81), the event desired,
and who will help with organizing.

Contact **Roger Harris '62** or
Terry Raulin '69 to start the process.

WEBSITES

DELTA GAMMA ALUMNI
www.deltagammaalumni.org

DELTA GAMMA CHAPTER
www.miamiohiopike.org

PI KAPPA ALPHA
www.pikes.org