

UPCOMING EVENTS

Make sure you are updating your calendar with these three awesome events coming this spring! More information on these events are forthcoming.

Check our website at www.thetachiomega.com for further details.

THON

February 20-22, 2015

Founders' Day/Blue-White Weekend

April 18, 2015

34th Annual Theta Chi Open

May 1, 2015

NEW MEMBERS 2014

Omega initiated 10 new members this fall. We'd like to congratulate the chapter and the new members and wish them all the best in their journey.

Brennan Bench
Parangat Bhaskar
John Broderick
Kevin DiGuiseppe
Justin Garrigan
Colin Kaye
Bradley Nichols
Patrick O'Brien
Parth Patel
Luis Roman

ON THE WEB

Website:

www.thetachiomega.com

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/OXatPSU

Twitter:

www.twitter.com/OXPSU



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HOMECOMING 2014

Actives Place 3rd in Homecoming Competition

As if there was a giant beacon in the sky over Happy Valley and State College, Pa., Penn State alumni (and Theta Chi alumni) returned home in late September to enjoy another exciting weekend of homecoming entertainment. Although the game might have been an extreme disappointment to Penn State fans, Theta Chi still managed to make the weekend interesting!



Alliance to put on a stunning show. Theta Chi was off to a great start for the Homecoming competition.

On Friday, September 26, the floats and parade proceeded down the streets of State College and the Penn State campus. The floats, in compliance with the rulebook, were impressive coming down the main streets of the downtown area. Theta Chi once again teamed up with the Penn State Dance Alliance to make an awesome float (Aladdin was the theme). And someone must have been impressed, because the Theta Chi/Penn State Dance Alliance team received third place in the float competition!

Overall, Theta Chi placed third in the homecoming competition! Nice job!



As usual, homecoming comes with several events and competitions. And, not to be outdone by other fraternities, Theta Chi participated and represented well.

In the Homecoming For The Glory Talent Show, the undergraduates placed second! They teamed up with The Penn State Dance



We are looking for photos past and present! Share them with us to share with other alumni and to have them on file for years to come! All photos are fair game – homecomings, THON, Blue White Weekends, formals, tailgates, reunions, you name it! Send them to alumninews@affinityconnection.com.

RENOVATION UPDATE

House Renovations: Accomplishments and Future Directions

As we approach 2015, it is appropriate to take a look at where we stand in the long term renovation plans for the chapter house. As you have seen in previous editions of the *Omegaphone*, several projects have been completed over the last little more than decade by both National and Theta Chi of Penn State. During the period of time the National Chapter owned the house the third living floor was completely renovated and brought up to local code living standards, the heating boiler was replaced and numerous small upgrades were completed. Thank you to the National Chapter for their help.

After we re-acquired the house, the board began the long range planning and structural studies of the physical infrastructure. Thanks to the capital campaign and all of those who supported it, the board has completed several of the items that were in dire need of repair. Many of the following have been highlighted in previous *Omegaphones* and in updates on the website.

- All remaining windows and shutters replaced
- Side porch renovation
- French doors to the porch, parking lot and bar upgraded and replaced

The bar floor tile was recently removed due to the presences of asbestos and we are in the process of approving a new commercial epoxy floor.

The kitchen and old milk room (connecting to dining room) floor have also begun to fail. All tiles in the milk room were removed and replaced with a new tile floor. Tiles were salvaged and used to patch areas of the kitchen floor. Our hope is to extend the life of the floor for a few more years.

There is still a long way to go to complete the renovations. The following list is a reminder of work yet to be completed:

- Replace stair landing French door

- Replace and upgrade electrical systems in the basement, first and second floors
- Renovate all second floor bedrooms
- Clean and re-point brick and re-paint all exterior needs
- Repair/replace roof structure over kitchen door
- Renovate the first floor
- Convert bedroom off the pool room to meet ADA compliance
- Repair and refinish all floors and staircases
- Achieve full ADA compliance

Theta Chi of Penn State, thanks to the brotherhood's support, has invested close to \$100,000 in just the past three years. We as a board are continuing to work on a plan to make these needed repairs in a cost efficient manner. The scope of a few of the items and the code requirements make this a challenge. Your continued support is greatly appreciated and critical to our longevity at Penn State.

SURVEY SAYS...

What Do Theta Chi Penn State Men Really Want? Well, You Told Us!

We sent a survey recently to alumni via email that asked for feedback about events and the alumni relations program. Here is what you said you wanted...

I would attend Theta Chi alumni events if they were planned...

- In my area or a nearby metro city 76%
- On campus 64%
- At a hotel conference center 21%
- At a country club 15%
- At tailgate functions 33%

When is the best time to have an alumni event?

- During Homecoming weekend 22%
- Football weekends 53%
- Fall weekends when there is no Penn State football going on 41%
- Summer when the students are gone 22%
- Spring time before the students head home for the summer 63%
- Over the holidays 3%

I am most interested in attending alumni events or connecting with...

- Omega brothers from my era or

- decade 97%
- Omega brothers living in my geographic area 60%
- Omega brothers who work in my field or professional area 29%
- Recent Omega graduates 23%
- Current Omega undergrads 34%

What would be some ideal alumni reunions?

- Golf outing and a weekend of activities on or around campus 32%
- Bus tour of the local wineries, breweries, and distilleries 29%
- Fishing or camping trip with beer and stories around a fire pit 35%
- Homecoming or Founders Day banquet 45%
- Casual Saturday night at the house with burgers in the backyard 65%
- A night out in the nearest big city 38%
- Networking night with alumni and current active members 32%
- Penn State football game viewing party at a local sports bar/restaurant 61%

What would you like to see more of in

Omegaphone?

- Penn State sports 13%
- Listing of key dates at Penn State 26%
- Profiles – alumni beyond usual 55%
- Photos from each decade 52%
- Updates on the Greek world 19%
- Q&A Section 13%
- More content from the undergrads 26%

If you are interested in getting more involved in the alumni relations program at any capacity, planning an event either back at the house or regionally, helping with the *Omegaphone*, sharing an update for an upcoming edition of the *Omegaphone*, mentoring an undergrad, etc., please let us know! Email **Tim Uhrich** at timothy.uhrich@gmail.com for more information on how you can help and get more involved! (Note: these percentages represent the number of respondents who selected each item; in most cases, respondents were able to select more than one).

If you didn't get the survey in your inbox, it's probably because we don't have your email address. Please update your address by going to our website at www.thetachiomega.com and sending us a message via the CONTACT US tab. Thanks!

To take the survey, go to www.surveymonkey.com/s/KXQCW7L.

HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

Thank you to the following donors for their support of the annual fund in 2014. Remember, the annual fund is a completely separate, but equally important fundraising effort that raises money for our year-to-year operational expenses and our alumni relations program. Make your gift before the end of the giving year on December 31. You can donate on our website at www.thetachiomega.com using your credit card via PayPal.

523 S. Allen Club (\$523-\$999.99)

Michael J. Becker 1990

Snake & Sword Society (\$250-\$522.99)

George W. Chapman Jr. 1944
Eugene A. Whitehouse 1953
Mark M. Burroughs P.E. 1963
John D. Swift 1964
Adam J. Swarts 1988
Bryan T. Powell 2012

1856 Society (\$185.60)

Walter A. White 1948
Robert B Bossler Jr. 1949
Robert F. Waltenbaugh 1949
John V. Coleman 1961
David A. Heitzenroder 1964
Kenneth P. Slaby 1972
Shane Balcik 1991
John A. Buyarski Jr. 1991
Gerard C. Siaton 1995

Red Carnation Club (\$100-\$185.59)

Thomas E. Morton 1953
Joseph T. Crudo 1955
Lamont B. Smith 1955
John Dutch Lichliter III 1956
Walter O. Manning 1958
George E. Walker 1958
Thomas A. Eyerly Jr. 1959
Michael P. Lazorchak Estate 1961
Lamar E. Rohrbach 1961
William M. Blakely 1962
James C. Stalder 1962
Keith L. Straley 1962
Samuel K. Padjen 1965
Al J. Migliaccio 1966
Alfred T. Romanoski Jr. 1967
Richard I. McLean 1968
John N. Weiss Jr. 1970
Matthew A. Mankus 1973
Drew M. Tomlinson 1979
Anthony D'Ippolito 1983
Timothy P. Dutcher 1983
Robert B. Tucker 1983
Alan H. Vladimir 1985
Philip J. Katchur 1988

Bob Kramer 1988
Sean Tirney 1988
Richard B. Maltz 1990
Ned Filipovitz 1996

Omega Supporters (\$50-\$99.99)

Robert C. Kennedy 1950
Robert M. Spinazzola 1956
James W. Caldwell 1957
Philip C. Chapman 1957
Keith F. Vansant 1958
Alexis Barron Esquire 1960
Richard R. Jones 1960
Paul H. McConnaughey 1960
Ian W. Ramsay 1961
Ted Smathers 1962
Rod N. Raynovich 1964
Richard J. Bartnik 1967
Charles Stempka 1970
Robert A. Hoffman 1976
Robert A. Coleman 1978
R. Stephen Spinazzola 1981
Chris G. Allocco 1984
David J. Noll 1986
Christian J. Koczur 1991

Ronald Beadenkopf 1993
Bryan B. Cooley 1994
Michael R. Hetrick 1995
Mark T. Kelly 1995
Matthew S. Keller 2000
Eric M. Guida 2002
Michael Crawford 2007
Brent E. Homcha 2012

Other (Up to \$49.99)

Ralph J. Ettinger 1949
Eugene R. Raup 1952
Win Orben 1955
James V. Forsythe 1956
James G. Wood 1961
Ed G. Messmer 1970
Victor J. Howe 1977
J. Tristan Stancato 1980
Brian R. Douglass 1999
David G. Hartwich 2009
Jacob A. Kerr 2010

*Reflects gifts received as of
December 2, 2014.*

ALUMNI UPDATES

Walter A. White '48

(Bradenton, FL 34209-7857; wawrunner1@yahoo.com) My wife of 60 years, Elizabeth, and I moved into Freedom Village, a retirement community in Bradenton, Fla., last year. I am a 40-year runner and am still competing in local races. Yesterday, I won my age group in a local five-miler called Bill's Beer Run. Nothing like a couple of cold ones after a race at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday morning. I have qualified locally for the State Senior Games in December in Cape Coral. I hope to qualify there for the National Games in Minneapolis in July of 2015. I might also be going to the National ATF Games in Jacksonville also in July. Say hello to **Bob Waltenbaugh '49** and **George Chapman '44** for me.

Robert B Bossler Jr. '49

(Bloomfield, CT; rbbossler@msn.com) I had a nice thing happen to me. The American Helicopter Society Intl. awarded me their Honorary Fellowship, their highest award, in 2013. It acknowledged a significant life-saving program and a major reduction in transmission weight that I am proud of. Nice to be

recognized. I had enormous help from some very talented people.

Robert Wendel '54

(Reading, PA; wendel-robert@usa.net) **James Krug '54** and **William Wendel '53** passed away this year.

Walter O. Manning '58

(Plainfield, IL, womvbm@ameritech.net) Walter and his wife, the former Vera Bakale, celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary this month. Helping them celebrate were their two daughters, two sons-in-law and eight grandchildren. They hope all is well with the class of '58.

George E. Walker '58

(3804 Brockbank Dr., Salt Lake City, UT 84124-3954; geoguinw@msn.com) Guinevere and I live in Salt Lake City, Utah. I retired as chief engineer and technical manager in the design and development of solid propellant rocket motors for space and submarine launch. We golf in the summer and ski in the winter.

Hugh McClure '72

(Abington, PA; hmclcl@aol.com) I am retiring in June 2015. Plan to spend the summer in Scotland and Ireland with my wife Patty and my three sons. We are going to find our roots and have a wonderful time.

Larry Bell '73

(Alamo, CA; Larry.bell@am.jll.com) Ran into **Dave Bosshardt '73** recently. It was great getting caught up.

Bryan Powell '12

(Miami, FL; powell50b@gmail.com) I'm finishing my final semester of graduate music studies at the University of Miami (FL) this December. It is currently sunny with highs in the mid 80's!

Share your update for our next edition by emailing it to our alumni relations firm at alumninews@affinityconnection.com. We're looking for news (and photos!) of weddings, babies, career accomplishments, reunions, you name it!

Inside:

- Survey says...
- Alumni updates from guys from the 40s through the 2010s!
- What's up next for the renovation?

THON 2015

Childhood for THON Kids Means Something Different ... Survival

It's a difficult thing to consider.

Your whole beginning, the whole first chapter of your life set in a womb of whirring noises, plugs, wires, beeping sounds, and the odd feeling everyone has in the building. Trade your baseball bat and baseball glove in for an IV and chemotherapy. Take your school days and put them in white hallways and bed cots of weak and frail children. Trade every good friend you ever had as a kid for a doctor or nurse.

Put yourself there. Close your eyes and imagine if you have to. If it makes you uncomfortable, then definitely put yourself there.

THON is not just a beautiful symphony

of Greek organizations moving to the rhythm of the sunrise and sunset; it is, at the end



of the day, a wonderful philanthropy giving to the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital. At the end of the day, your money goes to fighting cancer, a word that some children won't even comprehend unless they have it.

As Greek organizations get ready to take the dance floor in February, Theta Chi is going to war against pediatric cancer, and they need your support! Whatever amount you can donate to Theta Chi's cause is one donation closer to beating pediatric cancer. To donate directly, please go to www.tinyurl.com/direct-donatethetachi. Every dollar raised is For the Kids, so every dollar counts! Donate today!

PHOTO FLASHBACK

Say Cheese!

Who doesn't enjoy looking back at old photos and getting a little bit (or a lot!) embarrassed of our fashion and haircut choices! Preserve those memories and fashion faux pas by adding your photos to the chapter's collection! The chapter is always looking for more photos to share with other alumni on the website and the *Omegaphone!* We promise we won't use it as blackmail!

Send photos to our alumni relations firm at alumninews@affinityconnection.com please! Or, if you would rather mail them to us, we can mail them back to you once we've scanned them in and saved them. For more information about this option, email alumninews@affinityconnection.com.

We might use them in the next edition!



Look what we found! Theta Chi Open circa 2008 (above) and group photo with the Lion Shrine circa 2007 (left)!