

## ALUMNI BOARD

### President

John Thorsen '86

### Treasurer

Alan Hubbell '86

### Secretary

Rob Tobin '92

Craig Emrey '84

Larry Hixson '81

Paul Touhey '01

Phil Lucas '82

Ron Krasnansky '90

## CHAPTER ETERNAL

*We have recently learned of the passing of the following brothers...*

John Morris '45

Krebs Myton '53

Robert Schimmel '60

Earl Kohlhaas '60

James Vandergrift '64

Henry Cacciamani '81

## HOMECOMING ATTENDEES

*Thank you to the following brothers who came back for Homecoming 2012...*

Howard Moore '54

Warren Keefer '80

Larry Hixson '81

Phil Lucas '82

Irwin Slotnick '82

Wayne Irish '83 (and sons)

John Vickers '84

Alan Hubbell '86

John Thorsen '86

Ron Krasnansky '90

Mark Strickler '94

Paul Touhey '01

John Lule '12

Mike McGivern '12

Arthur Goldschmidt



# Tau TALES

Tau Company of Delta Tau Delta Fraternity • The Pennsylvania State University  
State College, Pa. • December 2012 • [www.psudelts.org](http://www.psudelts.org)

## Alumni President Report

### APPEARANCE DOES MATTER

#### ALUMNI BROTHERS NEEDED TO STEP UP TO HELP REPAIR SHELTER'S CONDITION TO PRESERVE OUR FUTURE

*By Alumni Board President John Thorsen '86*

Greetings everyone and hope this edition of *Tau Tales* finds all of you healthy and ready for the holiday season. Yes, we have decided to go back to providing a printed, mailed version of *Tau Tales* instead of the email version that we have been publishing. Please enjoy the content, the news and updates of the great things the actives are achieving including a huge pledge class which is currently in process. The latest chapter officers are tremendous in their efforts and love of the Shelter.

This report is about something serious, the Shelter's condition. It is, quite frankly, just hanging in there. There is no other way to state it. Giving is at an all-time low, and we are barely covering our costs to maintain the Shelter. We received approximately \$15,000 total in contributions last year. Yes, that's it. In comparison, I note that Sigma Chi received \$2 million. The funds we did raise are appreciated and much thanks to the alumni that are supporting the Shelter, but funds don't last long when you have to maintain a three-story house filled with 35 to 45 actives.

Because of the inability to upgrade facilities and improve the finishes and materials of the Shelter on a more regular basis, it affects the ability for the actives to attract new members and therefore affects our future. Appearance does matter. The recent Library renovations, which are fantastic and being used daily by the actives, were done using funds from the Educational Fund, coupled with the sweat equity of the brotherhood. Otherwise we would have had difficulty funding this effort. We have not had the ability financially to perform any major upgrades, and the actives are deservedly requesting projects for improving the Shelter such as renovating the living/Chapter room to reflect the new furniture, updating the basement to be the entertaining

space, updating the kitchen equipment and installing new windows for upper floors and new carpeting for the 2nd and 3rd floor hallways.

This leads me to my next plea. **Larry Hixson '81** has stepped up big time this year and is now chairing our fundraising efforts. Larry will be taking over as Communications Director from **Drew Chappie '03** by the end of this year as well. By now you have received a letter from Larry asking for your financial support in great detail, and you should have received a Tau Delt sticker to proudly display on your car. His letter did result in a surge of giving. Thank you.

In the near future we will offer a way for you to help in a small way that will add up via a direct debit micro-transaction. I am sure most of you could part with \$5, \$10 or \$20 a month having it direct debited from your checking account. I know I can, and I will. When this program is rolled out later this fall, please sign up, forgo that one fancy cup of coffee on Friday, and give the money instead to DTD each month, as it is desperately needed. Smaller dollars will add up to real funds that can be used for real improvements. If 100 brothers donate \$20 per month, that is \$2,000 per month or \$24,000 for the year. Wow, what a difference that would make!

#### *What's new at the Shelter, and how you can help hands on*

The good news regarding the Shelter: we were able to get the 2nd and 3rd hallways repainted, and we had to buy a new refrigerator (the old one died and could not be repaired any longer). Tau Corporation bought new living room furniture including end tables, couches and rugs and new dining room chairs. As of this

*Continued on page 2*

# Alumni President Report

Continued from page 1

writing, all of this material should be in place at the Shelter. We plan on finding a way to replace the carpeting in the 2nd and 3rd floor halls, one way or another. It will cost about \$3,500. Is there anyone out there that can donate this money to make this happen?

I want to close with another plea: we need volunteers. Our current board is composed of nine members, listed on page 1. All are working hard and contributing their time despite their busy lives and careers. They are giving

back to something that gave so much to them.

Drew Chappie has asked to step down from his board position and with great sadness we have accepted. To me, Drew is “Mr. Delt,” and has worked long and tirelessly for all things Delt. We will miss Drew’s participation. The good news is he is getting married next year! **Craig Emery ’84** has been on the board via long distance and would gladly give up his role to someone more local as well. WE NEED VOLUNTEERS! Now

is the time to re-engage and give back by offering your time for three meetings a year. Please contact me if you are interested and feel it is the right time for you to be involved. Email me at [jthorsen@absconstructionllc.com](mailto:jthorsen@absconstructionllc.com).

Please help continue the success, pave the way for the future generation of Delts and give what you can. And visit the Chapter, meet the brothers, tell them your stories and share what being a Delt means to you.

Thanks for listening! Go PSU!

## Tau Events

**HOMECOMING 2012 IS UNOFFICIAL KICKOFF OF 10-YEAR COUNTDOWN TO TAU’S 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY ANNUAL EVENTS PLANNED OVER NEXT DECADE LEADING UP TO 2022 MILESTONE EVENT**

By Larry Hixson '81

Homecoming 2012, our 140th anniversary at Penn State, was a shining example of alumni and undergraduate planning and cooperation! The alumni welcome banner hanging in front of the Shelter was inviting and the Shelter was in the best shape I’ve ever seen for a Homecoming. The undergraduates were very gracious and engaged with alumni all day and late into the evening. The catered food was absolutely delicious. I believe this was one of the best Homecomings Tau Chapter has presented in many years! I’d like to thank President **Max Gelernter** and the other Tau Chapter officers, as well as **Geoff Ford**, for the fantastic alumni relations effort this year!

### *Special gifts for our 2012-13 donors*

I plan to mail each alumnus who made/makes a donation his own free magnetic car decal, so please watch your mail and accept my heartfelt thanks! I recently phoned each recent donor to thank them as well (felicitations

without solicitations).

Thanks again to all brothers who have made donations since August 15 this year (and previously)! If you have not yet made your gift, please do so as soon as you are able. The undergraduates are seeking new alumni donors for two new vented natural gas fireplaces for the first floor, for which they are working on getting estimates now.

### *The countdown is on to our 150th Anniversary*

As Capital Campaign chairman, I would like to formally announce the 10-year countdown to our Delta Tau Delta 150th Alumni Reunion and Formal scheduled in 2022! I hope you will keep 2022 in mind and make plans to support and/or attend this important milestone for Tau Chapter! I will soon be announcing our annual countdown plans and NEW special alumni events slated for each upcoming year leading up to our

150th anniversary at Penn State! To that end, I would like several volunteers to form our new 150th Reunion Committee to assist with planning and execution! Anyone interested may contact me at [larry.hixson@gmail.com](mailto:larry.hixson@gmail.com). Please remember, we are all volunteers sharing our time and resources for the benefit of all Tau Delts. Please let me know how we can serve you better! Please also provide feedback on how we can revitalize our web site, [www.psudelts.org](http://www.psudelts.org). I have already started a complete review and have some new ideas, and your input (praise or complaints) would be greatly appreciated!

We are all part of a proud tradition as Tau Delts! No matter your status or station in life, we are forever brothers of Delta Tau Delta and Tau Chapter. We are working hard to help honor those who have gone before, those who are still with us, and all our noble fraternal traditions!

## News from the Chapter

### A BANNER YEAR FOR TAU DELTS

Our undergraduate brothers have several key highlights to report so far this semester...

- Homecoming - Partnered with Alpha Omicron Pi; our float was in the top 10.
- Rush – More than 400 rushes came through the house. We have a pledge class of 23 this fall.
- Academic – Six brothers were initiated into the Order of Omega (recognizing the top 3 percent of GPAs among Greeks).

- Greek Sing – We will be performing the Lion King with our THON partners, Delta Zeta.
- THON – We raised more than \$10,000 on our second canning trip.

The Chapter Room at the Shelter is in need of renovations and we are hoping alumni will contribute to this effort to revitalize a piece of our history. To make a contribution, log on to [www.psudelts.org](http://www.psudelts.org) or call 800-975-6699.

# Alumni NEWS

## Bill Reilly '58

(205 Fowler Dr., West Chester, PA 19382-5211; bpr60@verizon.net) Our grandson Charlie McDermott plays Axil on the ABC TV sitcom "The Middle." Axil is the oldest of three kids on the show, whose mother Frankie is played by Patricia Heaton. Needless to say we are very proud of Charlie, who is the oldest of our nine grandchildren.

## Arthur Goldschmidt '59

(500 E Marylyn Ave., Apt L183, State College, PA 16801-6225; axg2@psu.edu) I, "Doc G," continue to serve as academic adviser to the Tau Chapter, an easy job as the brothers and pledges are bright and study hard. My wife and I have sold our house and moved to Foxdale Village Retirement Community. Westview Press published the tenth edition of my textbook, *A Concise History of the Middle East*, in November 2012; Scarecrow Press will publish the fourth edition of my *Historical Dictionary of Egypt* in 2013.

## Tom Roche '78

(427 Colonial Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090-3008; troche@fmrtl.com) On June 1 of this year, I was elected president of the New Jersey

Society of CPAs (more on line at NJSCPA.org). I have been a CPA in New Jersey since 1981 and was honored to serve a one-year term representing over 15,000 members in the state. The DTD experience certainly has been a large contributor to my ultimate success in the business world. I am senior partner in a local accounting firm in Cranford, NJ (Fazio, Mannuzza, Roche, Tankel, LaPilusa LLC) (FMRTL.com), which employs approximately 60 people. I have had the opportunity to speak with many PSU accounting students in NJ at our Scholars Institute and scholarship awards programs. It is obviously important to give back to the fraternity and university that gave me so much.

## Bob Penzelik '80

(3786 Wayne Rd., Munhall, PA 15120-3069; bpss10@verizon.net) All my brothers from the late '70s called me Ponzie. Although I graduated with a degree in education, I quickly realized there weren't many teaching opportunities and went on to get a computer and business degree. After living and working in Center City Philadelphia for ARA Services (now ARAMark) for a few years, I moved back to Pittsburgh and spent the better part of

my career working for Federated Investors (16 years) and now UPMC the past 11 years.

My son Joe is currently a sophomore Biology major in Happy Valley. He loves it in State College and is doing extremely well. He hopes to go on to medical school if he can only get through O-Chem. I've tried to get him to walk out to Hamilton Ave. and visit the Shelter but he hasn't had the opportunity.

My daughter Erin is a high school senior and the captain of her cheerleading squad. As you may guess, Penn State (University Park) is high on her list of options for next year but has applications into several schools and will weigh her options.

Tracy and I have been married for 28 years and she is still putting up with me for some unknown reason. She is the best thing that ever happened to me and we couldn't be happier.



## Giveaway

### GET YOUR TAU DELTS CAR MAGNET

We have created car magnets based on the sticker all alumni should have received in their fall appeal. We will be giving away these decals for free to all brothers who contribute to the annual fund in 2012-13.

To make your gift and get your magnet, do one of the following:

- Log on to [www.psudelts.org](http://www.psudelts.org).
- Call 800-975-6699.
- Mail a check payable to "Tau Company of Delta Tau Delta" to the return address on this newsletter.



### Thanks to the following Brothers for their contributions since August 15th, 2012, especially the multiple donors!

#### Founder's Circle (\$1,000+)

Martin G. Lane	1960
David B. Mooney	1961

#### Tau Society (\$500- \$999.99)

Timothy E. Phillips	1979
Lance S. Roberts DO	1981

#### Chapter Associates (\$250-\$499.99)

David T. Espenshade	1960
Frank P. Simpkins	1985

#### 1872 Founding Society (\$187.20 - \$249.99)

Harry G. McMahon	1950
Daniel L. Dunn	1951
Col. USAF (Ret.) William C. Meyer	1959

#### President's Club (\$100-\$187.19)

James G. Guerdon	1954
------------------	------

Howard R. Moore Esq.	1954
Frank B. McGowan Jr.	1960
Erik C. Christiansen	1979
Lawrence K. Hixson	1981
Garry D. Hennis	1984
Michael Davis	1987

#### Contributors (\$50-\$99.99)

Richard T. Pearson	1954
Jay P. Kahle	1962
David G. Mills	1963
Terry L. Morris	1977
Thomas F. Roche III	1978
Roy N. Rumbaugh	1980
Robert F. Guentter Jr.	1982

#### Contributors (\$50-\$99.99)

Robert W. Rauch	1954
-----------------	------

Reflects gifts received as of November 27, 2012.

# In Your Words

## WHAT IS YOUR FONDEST DTD MEMORY?

“The fellowship with the brothers and the good times we had.”

- **Thomas Spitznas '57**

“The brotherhood...someone was always available to talk with regardless of the hour or the topic.”

- **David Doherty '85**

“The ‘Mystic Tunnel!’ Our pledge bolt in the Winnebago to University of Kentucky!”

- **Thomas “Doc” Dougherty '87**

“Where to start? Pig roasts and little kids next door being told scary things, the great

late night conversations that seemed to go in every direction, being part of the ‘Worst National Onsite Review’ EVER, learning the new meaning of stripping (the floors) every weekend without a pole or lap dance in sight, 21st birthdays and ‘brains’ served at 2 a.m. followed by ‘gut grenades,’ soap hockey, songs around the downstairs bar with alumni, and getting addresses for the pledge book. All made for such great stories that even 20 years (and then some) later they can be retold for the umpteenth time and still make you laugh. Guess it is like so many have said before...the brothers and friendships formed.”

- **Evan Whittle '87**

“The group initiation of Alpha Lambda Tau into DTD to re-establish the Delts at PSU.”

- **James Gherardi '80**

“The entire experience...I had a great time both as a brother and leader of the fraternity.”

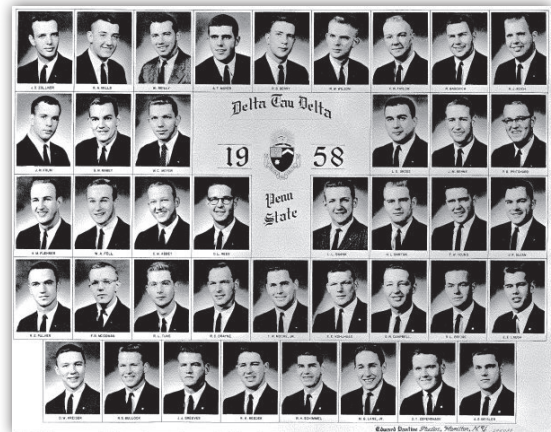
- **Gary Hennis '84**

*What is your fondest DTD memory?  
Share it on the message board at  
[www.psudelts.org](http://www.psudelts.org).*

## From the Archives

*We have so many great moments from our chapter’s history captured on film, like this composite from 1958. Recognize any of the faces?*

*As we approach Tau Chapter’s 150th anniversary in 2022, we need your help to build up our photo archives in celebration of 150 great years at Penn State! Please share the best pictures from your era for our archives. You can share them online at [www.psudelts.org](http://www.psudelts.org), by emailing them to [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com) or by mailing to the return address on this newsletter (mention DTD at PSU in your correspondence).*



*In this Issue...*  
- Tau Chapter Prepares for 150th Anniversary  
- How to Get Your Own Tau Delts Magnetic Car Decal  
- Which Alum’s Grandson is an Actor on a Hit TV Sitcom?

514-135 FN

Address Service Requested

Alumni Relations Processing Center  
P.O. Box 7007  
Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007

**PENN STATE**  
**Delta Tau Delta Fraternity**

