

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**July 11-14**  
**Informal Arts Festival**  
**Mini-Reunion**

Email [larry.hixson@gmail.com](mailto:larry.hixson@gmail.com)  
to connect!

**Late Summer/Early Fall**  
**First Annual Tau Delt Alumni**  
**Golf Reunion**

*More Details to Come*

**2013 Homecoming**  
**October 12**  
v. Michigan

## ALUMNI OFFICERS

*President*

John Thorsen  
717-522-1432

[jthorsen@aol.com](mailto:jthorsen@aol.com)

*Treasurer*

**Alan Hubbell**

*Secretary*

**Rob Tobin**

*Alumni Communications/  
Capital Campaign*

**Larry Hixson**

*Board Members*

**Paul Touhey**

**Alan Hubbell**

**Ron Krasnansky**

**Craig Emrey**

**Phil Lucas**

## ALUMNI UPDATES

From dragon boats to reapers to a full-time "gas" man ... find out what your brothers are up to on page 2.

## ON THE WEB

Alumni Web Site  
[www.psudelts.org](http://www.psudelts.org)

Alumni Facebook Page  
[www.facebook.com/groups/41280496847/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/41280496847/)



# TAU TALES

Tau Company of Delta Tau Delta Fraternity • The Pennsylvania State University  
State College, Pa. • May 2013 • [www.psudelts.org](http://www.psudelts.org)

## Alumni Reunion

### ALUMNI REKINDLE TAU SPIRIT AT BLUE-WHITE REUNION WEEKEND

### SHELTER IMPRESSIVELY SPIC 'N SPAN THANKS TO UNDERGRAD EFFORTS, CLASS OF 1998 BOASTS STRONGEST SHOWING

*By Larry Hixson '81*

Although the weather was a bit cold this year, the undergraduates of Tau Chapter outdid themselves with preparations, hard work and lots of elbow grease! From the outside, the Shelter looked its very best since I've been visiting regularly the last five years. The grounds were well manicured and bushes trimmed; the side patio area was reclaimed and pressure washed; the trees and shrubs had fresh mulch everywhere; and there was no trash or debris to detract from the recent landscaping! The windows were all sparkling clean, too!

Inside, the Shelter looked clean, smelled clean and had clean bathrooms! There were ample tables and chairs for the visiting alumni brothers and their families! Current undergraduate president, **Chris White**, personally invited our neighbors and their children for brunch, and they actually came, ate and stayed to visit with us! All returning alumni received a Tau Delt car magnet after registration. We also began a new alumni reunion registry book so we'll remember each event and who came each year!

We feasted on fresh apples, oranges, cranberry/apple/orange juices, donuts, bagels, English muffins, pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage links, and omelets! The hot food was made-to-order by Chef Jason, the Shelter's new cook!

Our Reunion Attendance Award goes to the Delts in the graduating class of 1998, who made the strongest showing of members for any class year and took both awards this year! I challenge both alumni pledge classes and alumni graduating classes to compete for next year's reunion awards!

Tau Chapter was presented with six new kitchen skillsets and two new wide-slice toasters by visiting alumni

as thanks for their efforts with the alumni reunion event! The chapter officers were all given chocolate Easter bunnies from Lindt as thanks for their ongoing hard work and leadership. These fine young men made me VERY proud to be a Tau Delt and to see our proud traditions carried forward year after year!

It was proposed that we try a split event for next year's Blue-White Reunion, with another reunion brunch at the Shelter from 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. and a pre-game alumni-only tailgate event at a local alumnus' house, in walking distance to Beaver Stadium from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., if they would please invite us next year!

I would also like some alumni volunteers to help with organizing our *First Annual Tau Delt Alumni Golf Reunion*. We need to decide on the event date and other details. Please email me at [larry.hixson@gmail.com](mailto:larry.hixson@gmail.com) for more information. Any and all ideas for more events and reasons to visit Happy Valley and Tau Shelter are also welcomed. Please get connected, get involved, stay connected, and stay involved with Tau of Delta Tau Delta!

Kindest regards and wishes for a happy and relaxing summer!



*"The First Annual Blue-White Alumni Reunion Brunch was FANTASTIC!" - Larry Hixson '81*

# Alumni NEWS

## **Dr. Arthur Goldschmidt '59**

(500 E Marylyn Ave., Apt. L183, State College, PA 16801; axg2@psu.edu) I have been an adviser, first to Alpha Lambda Tau and then to Tau Chapter, of Delta Tau Delta since April 1976, so I have seen a lot of history happen. I actually obtained the keys to the front and back doors from the last president of Pi Deuteron Chapter of Alpha Epsilon Pi in 1978 (that chapter has been revived since then) in order to let our brothers enter the Shelter for the first time. They had a lot of cleaning up and painting to do! Now, I live in State College in an apartment in Foxdale Village Retirement Community about one mile from the Shelter.

## **James P. Chirieleison '67**

(4495 Carriage Hill Ln., Columbus, OH 43220-3801; cpjcxii@gmail.com) We have relocated back to Columbus where we have had to learn to cope with the Bucks. I still cheer the Lions on but unfortunately my cheers generally fall on deaf ears. My wife is a Buckeye, so you can imagine where her allegiance lies. We are off to Germany in the spring to visit our son who heads up the returning Wounded Warrior program at the US Air Force base in Germany.

## **John M. Thorsen '86**

(3489 Coronet Ave., Lancaster, PA 17601-1164; jthorsen@aol.com) I have been married for 27 years to Tracie, who I met at Greek Sing in 1983. We have three children, Vicki (23), who is attending law school at Penn State; Katie (20), who is in her second year at Millersville University; and John (6), who is in first grade. I am currently VP of



*John Thorsen '86 and his wife Tracie.*

Construction for Wohlson Construction Company and President of their subsidiary ABS Construction, LLC. I have been President of Tau Corporation and Alumni Group for five years and am very happy to give my time towards furthering Delta Tau Delta and Tau Corporation.

## **Ted J. Walker '87**

(2426 Lobach Dr., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-5376; teddy@reflectionsinsilver.com) I am a PSU Delt grad with a BA in general Arts & Sciences. I loved my Delt experience. After graduation, I worked for four different companies doing four different jobs. I finally decided to put my degree to use as a...jeweler. My mother had been a designer/fabricator of sterling silver jewelry for 30 years before I joined up. Now it's been 20 years of jewelry making and I've not found a better job yet. I sell our work at the People's Choice show in Boalsburg every year. Brothers who are interested can see my work at [www.reflectionsinsilver.com](http://www.reflectionsinsilver.com).



*Ted Walker '87 with his family.*

## **Jim A. Morris '91**

(7-C East Athens Ave., Ardmore, PA 19003-2201; jamorris@comcast.net) I thought I would abandon my operations management career when I completed a Master's degree in Information Systems at Drexel University in 1996. Instead, I now combine the two as a user experience designer of large enterprise software applications for IBM. The Asian Studies degree didn't go to waste either. Since 1999, I've been competing all over the world with the U.S. Dragon Boat Racing Team, headquartered in Philadelphia.

## **Andrew C. Chappie '03**

(3363 Felton Street, San Diego, CA 92104-4743; drewchappie@gmail.com) I am now living in San Diego working for General Atomics Aeronautical Systems. We build the Predator and Reaper drones you hear about in the news nearly every day now. I will be getting married in May to another Penn State alum, Amber, just north of here in Carlsbad, Calif.

## **Joseph Wilusz '04**

(5844 Fifer Dr., Alexandria, VA 22303-1917; deusjdw@hotmail.com) My wife Lauren and I just had our first son, Thomas Joseph. Lauren is a 2004 grad as well, whom I met in Washington, D.C.



*Joseph Wilusz '04 with Lauren and newborn son Thomas.*

## **Tim Mikotowicz '08**

(5525 Vemille Drive, Erie, PA 16509; tmikotowicz@shipleenergy.com) I graduated last spring with a B.S. degree in Energy, Business, and Finance. I currently work at Shipley Energy in York, Penn., as an Account Executive/Natural Gas Scheduler. My recent successes include being the youngest ever in company history to hold the positions that I do. I started as an intern, and now my full-time position includes: natural gas/ electric commercial retention, NG scheduling and management of our physical and future positions.

*We received alumni updates from many more brothers. Please visit us online at [www.psuodelts.org](http://www.psuodelts.org) and click on Alumni Updates to find more.*

# In Your Words

## ALUMNI WEIGH IN ON THE DTD EXPERIENCE, TRADITIONS THAT BIND US AND THOSE WHO BELIEVE

### JOE PA WOULD BE PROUD

**Garry D. Hennis '84**, a resident of Orlando, Fla., serves as Chief Operating Officer for Westminster Communities of Florida. It is the eighth largest not-for-profit senior living provider in the U.S.

*What is your favorite DTD tradition? Why?*

My favorite tradition is actually the Rite of Iris. There are many other traditions passed along from pledge class to pledge class. We have and had a great house and we made a difference in the life of the University and individuals who were associated with Tau Chapter.

*How do you feel about Coach Bill O'Brien. Do you "Billieve" yet?*

I have the utmost respect for Coach O'Brien for how he has treated Joe Paterno's memory and because of his leadership to the football team and student body. I believe Joe would be proud.

**"We have and had a great house and we made a difference in the life of the University and the individuals who were associated with Tau Chapter."  
- Garry Hennis '84**

*How did the fraternity experience shape your life?*

My brothers afforded me the opportunity to serve them in the capacity of President. Being president of the chapter along with the numerous challenges associated with such a position helped shape me into the leader I am today.

**Reconnect with Garry at [hennisgd@aol.com](mailto:hennisgd@aol.com).**

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### SMALL TOWN CHARM... BIG TOWN PULSE

**Paul J. Bush '88** lives in Yardley, Pa., and stays busy with family life and his business.

*What do you miss most about living in State College?*

I loved the drive in from Bucks County. It was an oasis of sorts. I made the trip many times,

by car, motorcycle and pick up. Each time with great anticipation of arriving in town... before the Skeller was closed. I was in town just last year. It has grown quite a bit from the '80s, but still has a great feel ... small-town charm with a big-town pulse.

*How did your fraternity experience shape your life?*

It teaches you to budget your time, money and consumption wisely.

**Reconnect with Paul at [paul@flatbedcigarcompany.com](mailto:paul@flatbedcigarcompany.com).**

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### THE TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS THAT MAKE US STRONG

**Elliot Gold** currently resides in West Chester, Pa., and has been an active member of the Peace Corps since graduation.

*What is your favorite DTD tradition? Why?*

I absolutely love THON... I love how active and involved DTD is and how committed and close we are with our THON families. THON unifies the campus for a great cause and demonstrates the heart that embodies each and every Penn State student.

*What are your recent successes since graduation?*

I am really proud of serving in the Peace Corps. I found the fellowship between volunteers similar to the bond of a pledge class. Y'all go through some things together and the trials and tribulation that you endure make you come out stronger, closer, and better.

*How did your fraternity experience shape your life?*

I learned leadership and social skills, met some wonderful people, and lived an absolute full and rich college experience. It really taught me how an organization is run and how politics at the ground-level work. It doesn't surprise me that so many Fortune 500 executives, politicians and U.S. Presidents are Greek.

**Reconnect with Elliott at [esgold@gmail.com](mailto:esgold@gmail.com)**

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Dennis Kochis '00

### JUMP SHOTS AND THE SECRET BEHIND THE KNOCKS

**Dennis Kochis '00** got married last May, and brothers **Jay Bronder '02** and **Troy Vanatta '00** attended the wedding. He resides in Edgewater, N.J., and works as Director of Support for Mediaocean, a computer software and applications company in New York City.

*What is something the current actives may not know about the house from when you were in school?*

The basketball court on the side of the house was never empty. We would run games for hours on end. At times we'd bring the couches out so people could watch and wait to play next. Of course, I usually ran the court with a lights out jump shot.

*What is your favorite DTD tradition? Why?*

My favorite tradition was the "knocks" during chapter. It was always great to hear them and come up with your own. I'll keep the "why" between myself and the brothers who were there.

*How do you feel about Coach Bill O'Brien. Do you "Billieve" yet?*

What he has been able to do under these circumstances is simply amazing. Joe Paterno would be proud of Bill and the team. I look forward to many more years of Bill roaming the sidelines.

**Reconnect with Dennis at [dennis.kochis@gmail.com](mailto:dennis.kochis@gmail.com).**

# Annual Fund Update

## CHAPTER SUPPORT IS IMPORTANT, NO MATTER THE GIVING LEVEL

Some people say there is strength in numbers. This statement is especially true for annual fund. We're counting on you to help ours grow through your participation as an alum! Many hands (or wallets) make light work. But, right now, we simply have too few men supporting the organization.

Did you know that only 45 brothers have donated back to Tau since our giving year began last September? Today, less than 50% of brothers donate to the annual fund as compared to 2009, and yet our needs and programs have grown. Our hope is that 55 more brothers will give back this year so we can break the 100-donor mark!

We have made huge strides in creating a consistent alumni communications program that is relevant to our members. We're increasing opportunities for alumni to engage and reconnect, such as the Blue-White Reunion Weekend and our upcoming golf tournament. Tau Chapter continues to be here for its brothers—but we need your help and support to continue our efforts.

Whether you give \$5, \$50, or \$500, every dollar helps us to continue our good work—to ensure the Tau Chapter continues to build leaders among men and by providing you with a meaningful Delt experience beyond graduation.

### DONATE TO TAU CHAPTER

#### By Mail

Send a check to:  
Delta Tau Delta at Penn State  
Alumni Relations Processing Center  
P.O. Box 7007  
Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007

#### Online

Log on to [www.psudelts.org](http://www.psudelts.org)

#### By Phone

Call 1-800-598-4050

## In Memory

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

**Allen Liebau '52**  
**Leonard Swank '59**  
**Earl Kohlhaas '60**  
**Eugene Raiford Jr. '61**  
**James Annand '62**  
**Henry Cacciamani '81**

*Tau Chapter mourns their passing and extends condolences to their families and friends.*

### ANNOUNCING NEW MEMORIAL FUND IN RICHARD "RED" WHITTEKER'S HONOR

The pledge brothers of **Richard "Red" Whitteker '61**, who died on active duty during the Vietnam War, would like to formally announce the establishment of a new Memorial Fund to benefit Tau Chapter of Delta Tau Delta.

Please contact Brother **David Mooney '61** at 610-793-3160 for more details or to make a contribution.

The Fall 2013 *Tau Tales* will have a full profile our fallen Brother Red Whitteker. Please email any related stories or photos to [larry.hixson@gmail.com](mailto:larry.hixson@gmail.com) before September 1st.



- In this issue...*
- *Fantastic First Annual Blue-White Alumni Reunion Brunch*
  - *A Tau Alum Updates Us on His Jewelry Biz*
  - *Active Brothers Help Get the Shelter Spic 'n Span*

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