

# THE SWORD & SHIELD

MICHIGAN ALPHA CHAPTER OF PHI DELTA THETA FRATERNITY

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

VOLUME LXXXI, No. 2 SPRING-SUMMER 2010

## Active Chapter President's Report Chapter Had a Great Year, Optimistic Outlook

By *Thomas Hardenbergh '12*

One of the first things rushees see about Michigan Alpha is our stately mansion at the corner of Washtenaw and South University. When they walk in the door, they find a fraternity that matches our home—solid, strong and respectful of worthy traditions.



**Thomas  
Hardenbergh '12**

I am pleased to report that Michigan Alpha is continuing to make great progress as a leader in the U of M Greek System. Our success is a product of having a dedicated Executive Council with an active membership that works as a team to achieve excellence in all our pursuits.

Of course, the Michigan Alpha Alumni Association and all alums who support the chapter in effect collectively constitute the twelfth man who helps to keep our team winning.

As a fraternity president, I have had the opportunity to get to know the leaders of other houses on campus. I can say with certainty that Michigan Alpha's alums are second

to none when it comes to supporting the active chapter.

On behalf of the Executive Council and the entire active chapter, I want to thank you for your unwavering support – especially during these difficult economic times. We always strive to earn your trust and confidence as we know we have been given a rich tradition to uphold.

Here are some highlights from the 2009-2010 year that demonstrate the progress the active chapter is making:

- Initiated eleven new brothers during fall of 2009 and added seven more in the winter term of 2010.
- Increased membership to 66 active brothers with 20 living in the chapter house.
- Placed second overall for IM Sports within the Fraternity League.
- Hosted major social events, including the Michigan vs. Iowa away football game, which we watched on a giant inflatable screen on the front lawn with Alpha Delta Pi, a formal sit-down dinner with Pi Beta Phi and the Winter Formal in Windsor, Canada.
- Sponsored highly successful philanthropy events throughout year, including the Second Annual Boxcar Derby, Banta Bash with Delta Gamma, and Haunted House with Alpha Delta Pi. We were awarded "Best Philanthropy Event" by the U of M IFC for our Boxcar Derby.
- Won multiple events during Greek Week, including the Greek Olympics.
- Dominated the Go Greek! Awards by taking home the top prizes in New Member Education and Philanthropy. Phi Delt also won Honorable Mentions in Recruitment and the AIFC Chapter of Excellence.
- **Alex Carrick '10** was hired as a leadership consultant by the Phi Delta Theta General Headquarters. To my knowledge, Carrick is the first Michigan Alpha alum to be hired by the GHQ for this prestigious position.

Although we are separated by distance, please make a point of stopping by the chapter house to learn first-hand about our accomplishments if you have a chance to visit the U of M campus. Phi Delta Theta is a fraternity for life and alums are always welcome to visit.

Thanks again for your support. The active chapter especially hopes to see you during Homecoming 2010 (October 16) and the 2011 Founders Day Dinner (March 19).

## Founders Day Dinner 2010 was an Outstanding Event

Active Members and Alums Enjoy Guest  
Speaker During Engaging Program

The Michigan Alpha active chapter and the Michigan Alpha Alumni Association hosted our annual Founders Day Dinner on Sunday, March 7. The event was attended by more than 50 active chapter members as well as fifteen alumni and guests.

The event started with a "meet and greet" at the chapter house during which a framed photo of **Bill Mogk '53**, captain of the 1953 Wolverine baseball team, was placed on the wall in the Trophy Room. In addition, a framed photo of the 1955 Michigan football team featuring numerous Phis was also dedicated for display. This photo was donated by **Doug Roby, Jr. '56** shortly before he passed away.

Guests then made the brief jaunt to the Michigan League for dinner and the main program. Active chapter Alumni Secretary **Matt Papadopolous '11** organized the event and introduced the program, which included "state of the fraternity" speeches by active chapter President **Tom Hardenbergh '12** and Alumni Association President **JT (Tom) Buck '77**.

Buck announced the winner of the "Alumnus of the Year Award" which was, for the first time, simultaneously shared by five alums: **Dick Young '51**, **John Buck '54**, **Doug Roby '56**, **Bob Leland '58** and **Bernie Rinella '58**. These 1950s alums were honored for their generosity in donating a combined total of \$12,750 to pay for the reconstruction of the North Porch at the chapter house. The North Porch was reopened and dedicated during 2009 Homecoming festivities.

The highlight of the evening was an engaging speech by sports commentator and author John U. Bacon. Bacon, author of the acclaimed book "Bo's Lasting Lessons," recounted both inspiring and amusing stories from the Schembechler era of Michigan football. He pointed out how Bo's leadership skills and coaching techniques could be used to improve the performance of many different enterprises – even fraternities.

In addition, Bacon noted that during his undergraduate years at U of M he had actually played a little intramural hockey with some of the men of Michigan Alpha, so he has always had a good appreciation of the fraternity's prowess in athletics.

The Alumni Association was pleased with the turnout for this event and is seeking to continue the momentum for this celebratory gathering next year. Alums are very much encouraged to attend, so save the date for March 19, 2011.



*The highlight of the evening was an engaging speech by sports commentator and author John U. Bacon.*

## The Sword & Shield

Believed to have been founded in 1930, the *Sword & Shield* newsletter is published biannually by the Michigan Alpha Chapter of Phi Delta Theta at the University of Michigan for its alumni members, active members and friends. Printing and mailing of the *Sword & Shield* is paid for by the Alumni Association with money from the Annual Fund. This is your newsletter, so you are encouraged to contribute articles and information that can be shared with your fellow brothers.

### The Sword & Shield Editor

**Greg Karmazin '87** - Harrison Township, MI  
gkarm@aol.com

### Active Chapter Alumni Secretary

**Matt Papadopoulos '11** - Phoenix, AZ

### Alumni Association Officers and Board Members

#### President

**JT (Tom) Buck '77** - Farmington, MI  
jtbuck@infinitelearning.com

#### Vice President

**Robert Lewandowski '79** - Arlington, VA  
Robert.Lewandowski@exim.gov

#### Treasurer

**Joe Kraus '82** - Shelby Township, MI  
joekraus@comcast.net

#### Secretary

**Greg Karmazin '87** - Harrison Township, MI  
gkarm@aol.com

#### Board Members

**John Buck '54** - Farmington, MI  
jtbuck@prodigy.net

**Kellyn Parker '07** - Los Angeles, CA  
parker.kellyn@gmail.com

**Cameron Young '08** - Ada, MI  
cameroneyoung@gmail.com

### Chapter Advisory Board

#### Chairman

**Jason Barley '06** - Peoria, IL  
jason.barley@gmail.com

#### Members

**Mike Lisull '76** - Ann Arbor, MI  
mblcpa@ic.net

**Evan Isaacs '06** - Washington, D.C.  
evan.isaacs@gmail.com

**Paul Wezner '06** - Royal Oak, MI  
pjwezner@gmail.com

**Jacob Bach '08** - Traverse City, MI  
jacob.p.bach@gmail.com

**Ronnie Brandt '08** - Ann Arbor, MI  
ronbrandt@umich.edu

**Jon Buck '08** - Vienna, VA  
jontbuck08@gmail.com

**Alex Johnson '08** - Ann Arbor, MI  
wjohnsz@umich.edu

**Nick Lynn '08** - Port Huron, MI  
nwlynn@umich.edu

**Brian Velke '08** - Ann Arbor, MI  
bvelker@umich.edu

**Cameron Young '08** - Ada, MI,  
camyoung@umich.edu

# Michigan Alpha Heritage Project Update

## Help Us Preserve the Chapter's Rich History

Michigan Alpha has one of the longest and most distinguished histories of any fraternity on campus. Learning more of the history of our notable house and the accomplished members is a key part of the active chapter's commitment to maintaining a sense of continuity in the fraternity and respect for tradition.

During the spring of 2008, the Alumni Association initiated the "Michigan Alpha Heritage Project" to better document, preserve, and understand the history of the chapter. In response to our request, alums have provided copies of old photos, personal memories, composites, *Sword & Shield* newsletters, and other memorabilia that



U.S. Navy Cmdr.  
Phil Craig '63

tells the fascinating story of Michigan Alpha.

Recent donations include:

- Pictures of Michigan Alpha's membership during 1953 and 1954 (from **Ken Cropp, Jr. '55**).
- Framed picture of the 1955 Michigan football team featuring a number of Phis (from **Doug Roby, Jr. '56**).
- Framed picture of U of M baseball team captain **Bill Mogk '53** (donated by Bill).
- Pictures of the chapter house from the mid-1930s. This was a tremendous donation given these apparently professionally produced

photos had previously not been seen by the Alumni Association (from the son of **Robert C. Young '36**).

- Memories or pictures from **Robert Cooper '38**, **Martin Newcomer '38**, **Ted Spangler '40** and **Bob Chappuis '48**.
- Picture of Michigan Alpha's membership during fall 1945 (From **Dr. Arthur J. Prange, Jr. '47**).

During a brief ceremony at Homecoming this fall, the Alumni Association will be particularly proud to add framed photos of U.S. Navy Cmdr. **Phil Craig '63** and U.S. Lt. **Scott "Harv" Waldinger '86** to the walls of the Trophy Room. Both Brother Craig and Brother Waldinger were killed during military service. The Alumni Association is honoring them for making the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our nation.

Do you have some materials that tell the story of memorable events or even every day fraternity life? Please share them by contacting the Secretary of the Alumni Association, **Greg Karmazin '87**, at 26110 Harbour Pointe Drive S., Harrison Township, MI 48045. He can also be reached by e-mail at gkarm@aol.com. Brother Karmazin will copy and return all items (if you ask for them to be returned).



U.S. Lt. Scott "Harv"  
Waldinger '86

## Graduating Senior in the Spotlight

### Plans to Study Law at the Other Big Ten U of M

**Name:** Isaac Swaiman '10

**Hometown:** Minnetonka, MN

**Hometown High School:** Hopkins High School

**Pledge Class:** Fall 2006 (Epsilon)

**Major(s):** Economics & Political Science

**GPA:** 3.8

#### Activities and Leadership Positions at U of M:

Interned at the American Embassy in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Year abroad at the London School of Economics. Case Assistant at Robins, Kaplan, Miller and Ciresi, LLP. Member of U of M Student Government Student Life Committee. Tutor with America Reads and Students for Education Equality. Research assistant in the U of M Political Science Department.

**Activities and leadership positions in Michigan Alpha:** Served as Treasurer, Chaplain, and Awards Chairman.

**Experience in Michigan Alpha:** Joining Phi Delta was the best decision I made in college. Through

the fraternity, I have made lifelong friends and great memories. Being a member of the brotherhood at Michigan Alpha has helped me develop my leadership skills and become a better man.

I am amazed by the progress we have made as a chapter during my four years, and look forward to returning as an alumnus to see the growth of the fraternity. I will forever cherish these four years. I am extremely proud to be a Phi.

**Plans After Graduation:** During the fall of 2010, I will continue my education at University of Minnesota Law School where I received a full tuition scholarship. While I will be attending law school at one of Michigan's old rivals, I can assure the brothers that I will cheer for the Wolverines to retain the Little Brown Jug.



Isaac Swaiman '10

## Ufer Scholarship Winner for 2010

\$1,000 Award Honoring the Memory of Bob Ufer '43

**Name:** Jeffrey Le '11

**Hometown:** San Diego, CA

**Hometown High School:** Torrey Pines High School

**Pledge Class:** Fall 2007

**Major(s):** Economics and Political Science (Minor in Modern European Studies)

**GPA:** 3.19

### Activities and leadership positions in

**Michigan Alpha:** 2008-2010 Treasurer, 2010 Greek Week Representative, 2009 ALS Box Car Derby Co-Committee Chair-Race Day and 2009 Michigan Alpha Recruitment Boot Camp Representative.

**Experience in Michigan Alpha:** In a word,

amazing. It has been a true privilege to be a part of such an outstanding organization. Coming all the way from California, Michigan Alpha has made me feel at home on campus. The fraternity has made attending U of M the best decision of my life. Over the past three years, I have matured as both a student and a person. I owe much of this growth to friendships with my Phi Delt brothers and the core values promoted by the fraternity.



Jeffrey Le '11

## PDT Finishes Second in Intramural Sports

Highest Ranking Since 1985

Michigan Alpha excelled during the 2009-2010 Intramural Sports Fraternity League competition and achieved a second place finish among the 24 teams. This is the chapter's highest ranking since Michigan Alpha won the all-sports IM Championship in the 1984-85 competition.

The fraternity's open motto of "One Man is No Man" was demonstrated in the unselfish teamwork that made Michigan Alpha competitive in seventeen of the eighteen sporting events held by the Fraternity League. This achievement was particularly impressive considering Michigan Alpha has roughly half as many active members as the first place winner, Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Highlights of the 2009-2010 campaign included:

- First Place Fraternity "A" Soccer (Championship Win vs. SAE)
- First Place Fraternity "AB" Dodge Ball Tournament
- Second Place Fraternity "A" Wrestling (Championships in 190 lbs and 150 lbs)
- Second Place Fraternity Golf Meet (lost by only one stroke)
- Second Place Fraternity "A" Volleyball
- Second Place Fraternity "A" Wallyball
- Flag Football Team Sportsmanship Award

With many young athletes returning for the 2010-2011 season, Michigan Alpha looks forward to starting anew the hunt for the championship.

## Holmes Scholarship Winner for 2010

\$3,000 Award Honoring the Memory of Perry Holmes '17

**Name:** Karl W. Cran '12

**Hometown:** Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

**Hometown High School:** Lahser H.S.

**Pledge Class:** Fall 2008 (Iota Class)

**Major(s):** Psychology

**GPA:** 3.7

### Activities and Leadership Positions at U of M:

Administrative Assistant in the U of M Treasurer's Office, Member of New Life Church and Greek Campus Crusade for Christ Bible Study.

### Activities and leadership positions in Michigan Alpha:

Philanthropy Chair, Accolade Chair (new four-year leadership development program for members), Events Coordinator (Social Committee), Recruitment Bootcamp, Chaplain and participate in IM sports when possible. Currently

seeking to become an Iron Phi.

### Experience in Michigan Alpha:

Michigan Alpha has already been one of the best experiences of my life. It's given me more than I could have ever imagined. In addition to providing a group of lifelong friends and a vast network of supportive brothers, my experience in Phi Delt has made me a more independent, responsible, and confident individual.



Karl W. Cran '12

Most importantly, it has made me a better man in aspects both measurable and immeasurable.

## Alumni Profile

"Embrace and live the philosophy of Sir Winston Churchill: Never, Never, Never, Give Up"

**Name:** Bill Michaels '54

**Employer and Occupation:** Worked as a stock broker with three large firms, and then was an independent financial advisor for 20 years. Now I just manage my own stuff.



Bill Michaels '54

### Current Residence and Contact Information:

74 Morgan Lane,  
Basking Ridge, NJ  
07920-3816

### Family and Activities:

Married in 1959 and had four children with

my first wife. For the past 20 years, I've been happily married to a woman originally from Boston. Enjoy spending time with my nine grandchildren.

**Career Overview:** I made a good living by working hard and taking calculated risks in the always challenging field of financial services. I bet the farm on a stock at 56 years old and made big money, but rode the roller coaster down like many other investors during the past decade. However, I'm still in the black and very thankful for what I have earned. Looking forward to the next bubble!

**Interesting Career Fact or Experience:** I served as a Naval Officer on a 27,100-ton attack aircraft

carrier (USS KEARSARGE CVA-33) during the mid-1950's which patrolled the waters of the Far East with the Seventh Fleet. In fact, I earned a couple of medals for my service.

**Favorite Memory of Michigan Alpha:** All of them! We had a great group of men in my era. I also enjoyed competing on the Michigan Track Team and earning two varsity letters.

I am proud to have been able to financially give back to the Michigan Alpha as an alum.

**Message for the Brothers:** Embrace and live the philosophy of Sir Winston Churchill: "Never, Never, Never, Give Up."



# Michigan Alpha's Re-Founding at 5 Years

## A Review of the Chapter's Impressive Comeback Story

Given all the good news during the last several years about the improvements in the physical condition of the chapter house, substantial alumni support and active chapter accomplishments, it is easy to forget that just a little over five years ago Phi Delta Theta did not exist on the campus of U of M.

December 11, 2009 marked the five year anniversary of a remarkable comeback story. It is now appropriate to take a brief look back and celebrate a triumph in which Michigan Alpha alums, Phi Delta Theta General Headquarters (GHQ) and a dedicated group of young men with vision worked together to refuse to allow a great fraternity to die.

### The Downfall

After 111 years of continuous operations during which Phi Delt was a pillar of the Michigan Greek System, a combination of very unfortunate factors led to the suspension of Michigan Alpha's charter in the fall of 1998.

When the lights went dark on the chapter, some thought they might never again be relit.

Despite the Alumni Association's significant past expenditures and diligent work to maintain the chapter house, the combination of 95 years of hard living, increasingly strict Ann Arbor building codes, and higher expectations by prospective active chapter members made the structure inadequate. A significant amount of new investment was needed to rebuild and upgrade the chapter house.

To make matters more challenging, the entire national Greek System was under tremendous pressure to end counter-productive, yet widely prevalent, practices such as hazing and excessive use of alcohol that were no longer being tolerated by campus administrators, elected officials, law enforcement, parents and even prospective rushees.

Many fraternity alumni leaders began to think it wasn't worth the time, effort, costs and risks to change the Greek System as the growing list of negatives began to outweigh the positives of the fraternity experience.

Numerous traditionally top-ranked fraternities at U of M and campuses around the nation were closing their doors with the outlook for a future return looking bleak.

In that context, it would have been easy for the Alumni Association to sell the chapter house at 1437 Washtenaw, distribute the net

proceeds to the alumni members and write the epitaph for a worthy life well lived. After all, 116 years (including the first five years of operations from 1864 to 1869) was one heck of a run. Michigan Alpha's existence had already exceeded many outstanding American institutions and companies.

### The Turnaround Strategy

In the years leading up to the suspension of Michigan Alpha, the GHQ leaders decided that the entire fraternity, and eventually the whole Greek System, had to change or else it would face extinction. Certain practices that were considered revered, although perhaps distorted, traditions in fraternity life were getting out of hand. These problems were costing the entire Greek System a growing amount of money for insurance and litigation while resulting in a general loss of prestige.

GHQ decided it was time for Phi Delta Theta to stand up and be a national leader on the issue of reforming the Greek System. In early 1997, GHQ announced the "Alcohol Free Housing Policy" for all chapter houses with an implementation date of July 2000. The core goals of the policy were to reduce, if not eliminate, the fraternity's liability and encourage compliance with the law while promoting a safer and healthier living environment for active chapter members.

GHQ did not ban the lawful consumption of alcohol by fraternity members at appropriate venues off of property owned or occupied by Phi Delta Theta. Contrary to assertions of some critics, GHQ did not make the fraternity "dry."

At the time of this proclamation by GHQ, Michigan Alpha's chapter house was already required to be alcohol-free as a result of probationary requirements. Late in the fall of 1998, GHQ determined that Michigan Alpha had not complied with its rules and the chapter's charter was revoked.

While closing an old line "alpha chapter" is never easy, GHQ felt Michigan Alpha could have a brighter future with a fresh start. GHQ officials joined with a dedicated group of Alumni Association leaders to coordinate a turnaround plan for the Michigan Alpha.

One of the first major steps was to address the declining condition of the historic chapter house. In the period from 1999 through the early 2000s, the Alumni As-



*The men of Michigan Alpha today in the foyer of the chapter house during the 2010 Founders Day "meet and greet."*

sociation used proceeds from the refinancing of the property's mortgage to invest more than \$500,000 in restoring and improving structure. During part of this time, the Alumni Association rented the chapter house to other fraternities on campus to generate revenue.

The result of this revitalization strategy was a chapter house that provided safe and comfortable living conditions while complying with the building codes of Ann Arbor. In addition, the historic character of the chapter house was restored and preserved.

Matching the commitment to enhancing the physical assets, the GHQ and Alumni Association developed a plan to refocus the chapter on the fraternity's best traditional values while placing new emphasis on leadership development. Thankfully, the broader alumni membership of Michigan Alpha supported this strategy and provided financial donations that ultimately made the necessary progress attainable.

### Refounding and Reemergence as a Leader

After four years of careful planning and hard work by Michigan Alpha alumni in conjunction with a small group of U of M students willing to take a chance on bringing the fraternity back to life, the GHQ granted the chapter status as a colony on November 9, 2002. The colony status made the chapter eligible for reactivation once stringent standards were achieved.

By the spring of 2003, the colony was granted full-voting membership in the U of M Interfraternity Council. The colony spent the next 18 months building the organizational structure of the fraternity

*Continued on page 5*

## Michigan Alpha's Re-Founding...Continued.

while recruiting new members to reach the total number required for the chapter to be reactivated by the GHQ.

After a strong rush during the fall of 2004, the colony achieved the membership requirements and completed other steps that led the GHQ to reactivate Michigan Alpha's charter. On December 11, 2004, during a ceremony at the Michigan League witnessed by key alumni leaders, the 34 members of the colony became Michigan Alpha initiates of Phi Delta Theta. These men responsible for the Second Refounding of Michigan Alpha (the first was in 1887) are considered the Third Founding Fathers of the chapter.

Once re-established, Michigan Alpha

has enjoyed steady growth as the chapter restored its tradition of leading in the U of M Greek System, competing vigorously in intramural sports and accomplishing meaningful philanthropy projects as well as engaging in responsible social activities.

Today, Michigan Alpha is proud to remember its rich heritage and impressive comeback story while looking forward to the future with unlimited optimism. The combination of the continued support of Michigan Alpha alums, GHQ, and active chapter members who believe in the mission will ensure that the best years of the fraternity are yet to come.



*Michigan Alpha's graduating seniors proudly displayed their colors during the 2010 graduation ceremony in Michigan Stadium. Michigan Alpha members began the annual tradition of wearing PDT shashes in recent years.*

## Winter Term Pledge Class 2010

**Greg Cairns '12**, Shelby Township, MI

**Ryan Keating '13**, Ann Arbor, MI

**Adam Lewis '13**, Irvington, NY

**Mike Isaacs '13**, Bloomfield Hills, MI

**Evan Redmond '13**, Fort Gratiot, MI

**Eric Pillado '13**, Roswell, NM

## Michigan Alpha Alumni Association President Looks Back at the Re-Founding

By *J.T. (Tom) Buck '77*

The Alumni Association is extremely proud of the progress achieved by the active chapter during the last five years. If anyone ever had a question about whether or not it was worth the effort to save Michigan Alpha, I believe the high quality young men it is attracting and engaging in responsible fraternity life, leadership development and lifelong friendships provides the clear answer: Yes, definitely.

Today, Michigan Alpha is providing a new generation of Phis with the same beneficial opportunities that enhanced the U of M experience of more than 1,000 living alums. The Alumni Association is very grateful for the financial and moral support of this endeavor provided by literally hundreds of Michigan Alpha alums.

Our victories did not come easily. There are many alumni whom went above and beyond the call of duty to make the restoration of the chapter house and active chapter membership possible.

The tremendous labor of **Joe Fattore '80** to manage the major maintenance and improvements of our historic home during the early 2000s deserves special recognition. **Rex Vaughn '74** was an outstanding President of the Alumni Association and tireless advocate for reform during the period in which the active chapter was restored. His hard work and vision for a better Michigan Alpha has paid off in a big way.

**John Buck '54, Charlie Green '58, Larry Schramm '74, Mike Lisull '76, Doug Young '76, Bob Lewandowski '79, Joe Kraus '81, Nat Love '81, David Rand '85 (Texas Tech), Greg Karmazin '87, Andy Cohen '94, and Mike Weikert '94** as well as numerous other alumni made significant contributions of time, funds and effort to help Michigan Alpha stand

tall once again.

Of course, none of the alums' investments would have yielded a positive return without a dedicated group of re-founding fathers accepting the risky mission of rebuilding the fraternity from

the ground floor. Michigan Alpha shall always remember the 34 courageous young men who signed the Bond of Phi Delta Theta during the re-founding ceremony on December 11, 2004.

Instead of taking the easy route to enjoying Greek Life in one of the more than 20 established fraternities on the U of M campus at that time, they signed up for the difficult challenge of restoring a grand tradition step-by-step.

It is a true pleasure to serve as President of the Alumni Association and commemorate the teamwork that has restored our great fraternity as the leader and best on the U of M campus. While much work remains to be done, I am confident that Michigan Alpha is on the right course for a bright future.

Thank you for your collective trust and loyalty that made this milestone in Michigan Alpha's long, distinguished history possible. I invite all alums to visit the chapter house during Homecoming 2010 (October 16), Founders Day Diner 2011 (March 19), and at any time you are in Ann Arbor.

*Phi Delta Theta is a fraternity for life, and this is still your house on campus.*



*J.T. (Tom) Buck '77*

## Michigan Alpha Active Chapter 2009-2010 Facts at a Glance

**Current Active Membership:** 66

**Number of New Initiates During the Year:** 17

**Number of Actives Living in the House:** 20

**Geographic Distribution:** More than 50% from Michigan, but all regions of the U.S. are represented.

**Chapter G.P.A.:** 3.18 (3.34 for new members/pledges)

**IM Sports Standings:** 2nd place Fraternity League 2009-2010

**Major Philanthropy:** Box Car Derby to benefit ALS also known as Lou Gehrig's disease (Second Annual Event).

**Social Activities:** Sorority events with Alpha Delta Pi, Delta Gamma, Pi Beta Phi, and the Winter Formal in Windsor, Canada.

**Awards:** U of M Go Greek! Awards 2010 top prizes in New Member Education and Philanthropy. Ann Arbor Campus Community Coalition presented Michigan Alpha with the "Unsung Heroes" award during fall of 2009.

## The Chapter Grand

Since publication of our last issue, we have learned of the deaths of:

**Charles T. Klein '36**  
Wickenburg, AZ  
(December 2, 2009)

**Richard M. Finch '50**  
Davisburg, MI  
(December 8, 2009)

**Richard L. Strauss '50**  
Oklahoma City, Okla.  
(March 2010)

**Douglas Fergusson Roby Jr. '56**  
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI  
(February 27, 2010)

**Prescott Adams (Scotty) Crisler '57**  
Ann Arbor, MI  
(April 30, 2010)

**Thomas C. Shearer '59**  
Grand Rapids, MI  
(March 12, 2010)

**Michael VanScoy '94**  
Lake Bluff, IL  
(March 23, 2010)

Phi Delta Theta mourns their passing and extends condolences to their families and friends. For full obituaries, view our web site at [www.pdtumich.com](http://www.pdtumich.com).

*In coelo quies est.*

## Upcoming Alumni Events

**Homecoming 2010 Open House**  
Michigan vs. Iowa football game  
Saturday, October 16, 10 a.m.  
Brief ceremony and light refreshments at the chapter house.

### 36th Annual Phi Delta Theta Alumni Luncheon in Grand Rapids

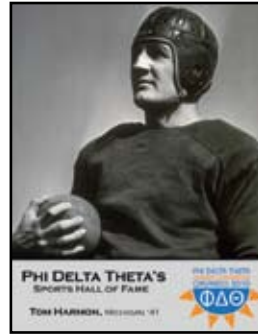
Wednesday, December 15, 11:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m.  
Kent Country Club  
For reservations, call 616-531-3400, ext. 3351.

### Founders Day 2011 Dinner

Saturday, March 19  
Chapter house and Michigan League.  
For reservations, e-mail [pdtumich@gmail.com](mailto:pdtumich@gmail.com).

## Alums in the News

Michigan Alpha great **Tom Harmon '41** (Chapter Grand 1990) was honored in June by being inducted into the inaugural class of the national Phi Delta Theta Sports Hall of Fame. Brother Harmon was one of just seven Phis chosen for this elite group.



The Phi Delta Theta General Headquarters (GHQ) announced

the selection of Brother Harmon during a ceremony that took place at the 2010 General Convention.

GHQ has produced an excellent video tribute to Brother Harmon that is posted on its Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/video/video.php?v=764659289660&ref](http://www.facebook.com/video/video.php?v=764659289660&ref). GHQ praised Harmon as "arguably the greatest football player in the University of Michigan's history."

**Charlie Green '58** was the focus of a July 7th article in the online publication Arbor Web. The piece highlighted his 50 years of service to the U of M Golf Course and decades of

work with the Michigan football and basketball programs.

In addition, the article reported about Brother Green's long professional career as a teacher at schools in Willow Run and Taylor as well as his good family life. The article can be viewed online at: [www.arborweb.com/articles/printable/printable\\_ann\\_arborite\\_charlie\\_green.html](http://www.arborweb.com/articles/printable/printable_ann_arborite_charlie_green.html).



**Charlie Green '58**

**Dr. Harry Huffaker '61** was featured in an online article published last fall in the World Open Water Swimming Association's web site blog at [www.10kswim.blogspot.com/2009/11/open-water-swimming-pioneer-harry.html](http://www.10kswim.blogspot.com/2009/11/open-water-swimming-pioneer-harry.html).

The article highlighted Brother Huffaker's many accomplishments in open water swimming which include a number of firsts. For example, he was the first person to swim the 30-mile Alenuihaha Channel from the Island of Hawaii to Maui in 1970.

In addition to highlighting his extraordinary stamina, the article also describes his daring experiences facing sharks and other sea creatures.

Brother Huffaker said, "Open water swimming became my favorite pastime by default as I was never very good at much of anything else!" *The Sword & Shield* believes he is being a bit too modest.

## Second Annual Boxcar Derby Continues Popular New Tradition

### Money and Awareness Raised to Fight ALS

On March 20, Michigan Alpha once again joined with Ann Arbor Active Against ALS (A2A3), a local non-profit organization, to co-host the Second Annual **Boxcar Derby** on South University. The event, which was open to the community and attended by a crowd of more than 100



**Michigan Alpha's recent ALS philanthropy efforts have raised more than \$36,000.**

people, raised money and awareness for promising research to combat Lou Gehrig's Disease (ALS). Active chapter brother **Peter DiLeo '12** served as chairman of the Derby.

Ann Arbor City TV covered the event and an informative report about the race can be viewed at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=fMIVvcOUx\\_s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fMIVvcOUx_s).

The Derby marked the fifth consecutive year that Michigan Alpha raised funds to benefit efforts to defeat ALS. ALS claimed the life of brother **Lou Gehrig (Columbia '25)** and is a major philanthropic focus of Phi Delta Theta's national headquarters as well as local chapters across the nation.

All combined, Michigan Alpha's recent ALS philanthropy efforts have raised more than \$36,000. For more information, view the Alumni Association's web site at [www.pdtumich.com](http://www.pdtumich.com).



## Alumni Updates

**Martin Newcomer, III '38** celebrated his 97th birthday on March 29 with his wife at his residence in Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania. Brother Newcomer activated in Michigan Alpha on May 7, 1932. He is among the oldest known living members of Michigan Alpha, and still keeps in contact with the chapter.

In recognition of his 78 years of loyalty, and congratulations for his milestone in longevity, the active chapter sent him a birthday card signed by nearly 30 active brothers with their Bond Numbers. The highest Bond Number signed on the card is 1953. Brother Newcomer's Bond Number is 440.

His daughter, who lives in Ann Arbor, contacted the active chapter to inquire about the possibility of the fraternity helping her father to celebrate his birthday by signing a birthday card. The active chapter members were thrilled to demonstrate why Phi Delta Theta is considered a fraternity for life.

**Bob Chappuis '48** and **John Greene '43** were among five former U of M players or coaches inducted into the Gridiron Greats of Michigan Hall of Fame on July 24

**Bernie Rinella '58** and **Mike Jackson '58**. During late fall of 2009, Brother Rinella and Brother Jackson toured Egypt with their wives and a group of other U of M alums.

This picture indicates that they enjoyed trying to blend in with the locals. *The Sword & Shield* wonders if they also wore this garb while riding camels?



**Bernie Rinella '58 and Mike Jackson '58.**



**Tony Hagelgans '87 and Tim Gresla '88 were key members of a crew that raced the 39 foot sailboat between Bermuda to Newport.**

In June, **Tony Hagelgans '87** and **Tim Gresla '88** were key members of a crew that raced, and returned, the 39 foot sailboat (Pearson) "Shindig" between Bermuda to Newport, Rhode Island. The boat is owned by a mutual friend.

Brother Gresla was on the six-person race crew, which finished 8th in their class in the 2010 Newport-Bermuda Race ([www.bermudarace.com](http://www.bermudarace.com)). He sailed the journey of over 635 nautical miles in about 82 hours and 25 minutes.

Brother Hagelgans joined the four person crew for the return sail from Newport back to Bermuda. While taking his turn at the helm of the boat, he encountered extremely rough seas sailing through the Gulf Stream in a storm. During the heavy weather, a rogue wave smashed the vessel and caused the centerboard to break off, but the boat was still able to make it back to port. Having no fear, our seaworthy Phis are looking forward to racing together in 2012.

**Brandon Mancini '07** received a \$3,000 Graduate Fellowship Award from the Phi Delta Theta Foundation to assist paying for his education at the Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit. This is the fourth Graduate Fellowship Award he has received from the Foundation. Mancini is in his fourth year of Medical



**Brandon Mancini '07 received a \$3,000 Graduate Fellowship Award from the Phi Delta Theta Foundation**

School and expects to graduate in June of 2011. He is President of his class at WSU Medical School. Mancini is planning to do his residency in Radiation Oncology.

Mancini said, "I cannot thank the Foundation enough for this support which has made my Medical School education much more affordable. The Graduate Fellowship program demonstrates Phi Delta Theta's commitment to sound learning is more than just encouraging words. I look forward to the day when I can give back to the Foundation and help it to provide the same assistance I received to a student in a similar circumstance."

**Patrick Moore '08** graduated from the U.S. Air Force Pararescue selection course in the spring. From a starting class size of 122, he was one of sixteen who managed to graduate from the Indoctrination course.

Although this was a huge step toward his goal, Brother Moore still has nineteen months of tough training (e.g., dive school, survival, paramedic, airborne, HALO, etc.) before he earns the right to be considered a pararescuer. View the following video on YouTube to get a sense of the intensity of his training: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=WRvEH\\_GJlNE&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WRvEH_GJlNE&feature=player_embedded).

Brother Moore considered going to law school after graduation, but decided to delay a possible legal education in favor of serving the nation in the military. During his years in Michigan Alpha, Brother Moore held a number of leadership positions and served as president. He can be contacted by e-mail at [pwolfram@umich.edu](mailto:pwolfram@umich.edu).



**Patrick Moore '08 graduated from the U.S. Air Force Pararescue selection course in the spring.**

**Visit the Michigan Alpha Alumni Association on the Web!**

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Register your e-mail address and receive our e-newsletter.

**Rush Recommendations Wanted!**

Know a young man headed to the U of M who might make a good Phi?

Please contact Rush Chairman **Carl Stanhope '12** by e-mail at [cstan969@gmail.com](mailto:cstan969@gmail.com)

# The Third Re-Founding Fathers Commemorate Five-Year Anniversary

## Looking Back and Where are They Now

All Re-Founding Fathers were invited to share their thoughts about the five-year anniversary of the chapter's establishment and updates about what they've been doing since their years as active members of Michigan Alpha. The Alumni Association received fifteen responses, and the edited versions have been printed in this newsletter. The full versions of the responses can be viewed on the Alumni Association's web site at [www.pdtumich.com](http://www.pdtumich.com).

If you were a Re-Founding Father who did not have a chance to submit a response at this time, the Alumni Association encourages you to e-mail us your updates/recollections that can be posted on the web site with all the others. The Alumni Association's e-mail address is [pdtumich@gmail.com](mailto:pdtumich@gmail.com).



### Josh Dimkoff '05

**Current Residence:** Hinesville, GA.



**Occupation:** U.S. Army, attorney and Captain in the JAGC.

**Role in the Refounding of the Michigan Alpha Chapter:** After joining the Phi Delt colony during my sophomore

year, I succeeded in recruiting many of my fellow Refounding Fathers from the halls of Mosher Jordan when the rest of campus wasn't producing pledges. I was named "Recruiter of the Year" for 2003-2004 which really was our make-or-break year.

#### Message for the Brothers About the 5 Year Anniversary of the Reestablishment of the Michigan Alpha Charter:

Believe and achieve, keep the faith. It was looking pretty dicey for several months leading up to the re-founding as to whether we would indeed make our recruiting goals to achieve the magic 35. A few of us held an unwavering belief that our work would not be for naught. Optimism is contagious, but so are doubts and pessimism. I ended up living in the fraternity for just my senior year, but that turned out to be one of the best choices I made in college.

### Jason Barley '06

**Current Residence:** Peoria, IL



**Occupation:** Development Engineer at Caterpillar, Inc.

**Role in the Refounding:** I started out as Risk Manager for the Fall 2004 semester. I then proceeded to serve two terms as the

chapter's Secretary. I also started the ALS walk that took place in Ann Arbor before the Box Car Derby.

**Message for the Brothers:** Remember the pledge you all made as Phikeia. Invest in the fraternity, and you will see more return than you can imagine. Phi Delta Theta is a great organization that will teach you many important lessons and values that will stay with you throughout your life.

### Ben Hanson '06

**Current Residence:** Ann Arbor, MI

**Occupation:** University of Michigan School of Dentistry class of 2010, General Practice Resident VA Hospital Ann Arbor

**Role in the Refounding:** Member of Re-Founding pledge class.

**Favorite Memory of Michigan Alpha:** The many friendships that I cultivated as a Phi Delt.

### Evan Isaacs '06

**Current Residence:** Washington, D.C.



**Occupation:** Touchstone Consulting Group

**Message for the Brothers:** I would have never imagined such a strong, beneficial bond to my brothers and this organization when I first

walked through the doors back in 2002. Proud to Be a Phi!

### Peter Islip '06

**Current Residence:** Los Angeles, CA

**Occupation:** On Set Production Assistant

**Message for the Brothers:** In the early days there were several times that we were sure that we were going to fail, and thought the house was done. I am certain every one of us back then thought about giving up and quitting many times, but we didn't. We always found our way through the fog, and we worked determinedly to achieve our goals. A few of

the early pledge classes never got to see the full fruits of their labors while they were undergrads, but they should feel proud to see what they helped to build.

### Greg Lavigne '06

**Current Residence:** Cincinnati, OH



**Occupation:** Attorney at Peck Shaffer and Williams, LLP

**Role in the Refounding:** I was Treasurer during colony status, and the first President after the official re-founding of the chapter.

**Message for the Brothers:** Take advantage of the incredible opportunity you have to be a part of a great organization and campus community. Phi Delta Theta transformed my college experience, and I hope it does the same for each and every one of you as well.

### Nabeel Obeid '06

**Current Residence:** Ann Arbor, MI

**Role in the Refounding:** Member of chapter for the first two years of my undergraduate experience (2002-2004) which was the beginning years of Phi Delta Theta's return to campus.



**Message for the Brothers:** To see

Michigan Alpha alive and well speaks volumes about the type of men who are part of this fraternity. Eight years ago, when I stepped onto Michigan's campus, the house was not even occupied by Phi Delt brothers. It makes me very proud to see the chapter continue to grow and improve with each semester.



# The Third Re-Founding Fathers Commemorate Five-Year Anniversary

## Looking Back and Where are They Now

### Paul Wezner '06

**Current Residence:** Royal Oak, MI



**Occupation:** I am employed by Organic, Inc – Senior Analyst, Marketing Intelligence. I am also attending graduate school at the U-M Ross School of Business and expect to earn a MBA by 2012.

**Role in the Refounding:**

I spent a term as the colony President of Michigan Alpha from the spring 2003 through winter of 2003. In addition, I served two terms as Secretary of the colony.

**Message for the Brothers:** You get out of the fraternity what you put into it. The more you put in, the more fondly you'll remember your time with Michigan Alpha, and the more it will mean when you return to see the chapter succeeding.

### Jacob Bach '07

**Current Residence:** Ann Arbor, MI

**Occupation:** Graduate school at U of M for Education

**Role in the Refounding:** I served as Social Chairman.

**Favorite Memory of Michigan Alpha:** The Phi Delt road trips to away football games were great times.

### Kellyn Parker '07

**Current Residence:** Los Angeles, CA



**Occupation:** I'm working in the agent training program at United Talent Agency, one of the leading talent agencies in the world.

**Role in the Refounding:**

I was in the last wave of brothers to join as we transitioned from being a colony into a fully functional chapter of Phi Delta Theta. I got to see us work our way through a lot of obstacles, and I helped to establish our identity as a newly formed chapter. I served as Recruitment Chairmen and President. It was extremely rewarding when all our hard work culminated in the refounding of the chapter. The Refounding Fathers created a legacy at Michigan Alpha by both reestablishing old traditions and starting up many new ones.

**Message for the Brothers:** I cherish my time spent on campus and made some of my closest friends through Phi Delt. I love to read the great updates in the *Sword & Shield*, and talk

to current active brothers. They are continuing a great tradition. I'm very proud that my brothers and I had a hand in reestablishing the premiere fraternity on campus that future brothers will be able to enjoy as much as I did.

### Matt Scarlata '07

**Current Residence:** New York, New York.



**Occupation:** Unilever.

**Role in the Refounding:**

As Alumni Secretary, I led the house in hosting the first Founders Day Dinner event that had been held in many years. Since being reestablished,

the Founders Day tradition has not only continued, but it has flourished.

**Message for the Brothers:** Although the working world can be fun, challenging, and rewarding, I envy the position you guys are in right now. The Phi Delt tradition is at an interesting point in time. Much of the tedious "grunt work" of re-establishing the chapter has been complete for several years now, so my hope is that you can take Phi Delt to an even higher level on campus in terms of social, athletic and philanthropic activities.

### Kevin "Mr. Peace" Szawala '07

**Current Residence:** Northville, MI



**Occupation:**

Being Who I Want 2 Be / Motivational Speaker

**Role in the Refounding:** I

served as IM Sports Chairman.

**Message for the Brothers:** Phi Delt is different when compared to other fraternities in the sense that it consists of a very special group of brothers who have chosen to be a part of something bigger than themselves. They have decided to put other's needs and the needs of the greater community ahead of their own. Focusing on that, along with striving to do what is morally right and always looking to make a difference, are the basic principles in which Michigan Alpha was re-founded...As you pursue your dreams, remember that the opposite of success is not failure, it is quitting.

### William Todd '07

**Current Residence:** Los Angeles, CA

**Occupation:** Project Coordinator/Junior Architect at RNL

**Role in the Refounding:** I served as President

during the time of when the charter was restored.

**Message for the Brothers:** The first five years of the re-founding has only been the beginning of Michigan Alpha's return on campus. The future is in your hands and I wish you continued success.

### Jon T. Buck '08

**Current Residence:** Arlington, VA.



**Occupation:** BAE Systems - Systems Engineer.

**Role in the Refounding:** I was Recruitment Chair in 2006 and

Phikeia Educator in 2007. Went on to form the first State Street crew with Alex Johnson, Nick Lynn, Tony Adan, Jon Lerner and myself as well as non-Phis Jon Acker and "Fisticuffs."

**Message for the Brothers:** One of my favorite things about the house has always been watching it change and grow from year-to-year. It's been amazing to see how far the house has come in so short a time. It has also been encouraging to see how far the recently graduated brothers have gone. Stay strong brothers. Show the world what you can do both during your undergraduate years and beyond. And of course, never stop striving to transmit the fraternity to those who may follow after not only, not less, but greater than it was transmitted to you!

### Cameron Young '08

**Current Residence:** Grand Rapids, MI.



**Occupation:** Marketing/Communications with Nurture by Steelcase.

**Role in the Refounding:** I was President of the pledge class that put us over the top -- getting enough guys to earn our

charter and become a full-fledged chapter of Phi Delta Theta.

**Message for the Brothers:** Being a member of Phi Delt will be one of your fondest memories of your 4 (or 5 or 6) years in Ann Arbor. Work hard, recruit guys better than yourself, and foremost, enjoy one of the best times of your life.

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*Reflects gifts received as of August 17, 2010.*

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