

The Sword & Shield

MICHIGAN ALPHA CHAPTER OF PHI DELTA THETA FRATERNITY

Ann Arbor, Michigan

Volume LXXX, No. 2 Fall 2009

Homecoming 2009

Alums See North Porch Dedicated, Michigan Alpha Honored

Every Homecoming is a special time when alum visit the chapter house to remember past glories and renew friendship, but the 2009 event was particularly memorable.



As usual, prior to the mid-afternoon kickoff, alums parked for free on the lawn and enjoyed meeting their fellow alumni and active brothers at Michigan Alpha's Homecoming Open House. The actives had the chapter house in top shape and put out breakfast foods with coffee to welcome returning alums as well as their guests.

In addition, this year's gathering featured the dedication of a major house renovation and the presentation of a community award.

Thanks to a very generous group of 1950s era alumni headed by **John Buck '54**, the Alumni Association was able to rebuild the North Porch during the summer and officially dedicate it as reopened on Homecoming morning.

John stepped up and gained the support of **Dick Young '51**, **Doug Roby '56**, **Bob Leland '58** and **Bernie Rinella '58**. The five alums donated a total of \$12,750 for the project. On behalf of his fellow donors, John cut the ribbon on the door to dedicate the North Porch during a short ceremony attended by alums and active chapter members.

The other highlight of the morning was the Ann Arbor Campus Community Coalition presenting Michigan Alpha with the "Unsung Heroes" award. The commendation recognized Michigan Alpha's leadership in the U of M Greek System for maintaining an alcohol-free chapter house.

Alumni attendees included **John Buck '54**, **Pat Hayden '66**, **JT (Tom) Buck '77**, **Frank Bock '78**, **Nat Love '81**, **Dan Recinella '81**, **Jeff Post '82**, **Greg Karmazin '87**, **Derek Smith '91**, **Paul Wezner '06**, **Ronnie Brant '08** and **Matt Schiefer '08**, among others who briefly dropped in to say hello.

The Alumni Association is considering ideas for expanding Homecoming festivities next year. Homecoming 2010 will be held on October 16 when the Wolverines take on the Iowa Hawkeyes.

Ann Arbor Campus Community Coalition Honors Michigan Alpha

Leadership on Alcohol-Free Chapter Housing Commended

The Ann Arbor Campus Community Coalition (A2C3), representing U of M, Ann Arbor city government and other civic leaders, presented Michigan Alpha with the "Unsung Heroes" award during a ceremony on the morning of Homecoming. The award recognized Michigan Alpha's leadership in the U of M Greek System for maintaining an alcohol-free chapter house.

A2C3's mission is to promote health and wellness by reducing harm from inappropriate alcohol use in the community through involvement of a broad-based coalition of community members. Ann Arbor City Council Member and A2C3 Leader Joan Lowenstein presented a plaque to Michigan Alpha President John Sturgis during the ceremony.

Lowenstein said, "It hasn't always been easy, but these young men are role models in influencing the Greek culture and addressing issues of peer pressure."

In response to legal, insurance, and student health concerns, the PDT General Headquarters mandated that all chapters of the fraternity established alcohol-free chapter houses as of the year 2000. With oversight by the Michigan Alpha Housing Corporation, the active chapter has adhered to GHQ's policy since it reactivated in the fall of 2004.



Michigan Alpha receives the "Unsung Heroes" award from the Ann Arbor Campus Community Coalition (A2C3).

While there have been challenges, the policy has yielded many positive outcomes. The chapter house's routine maintenance costs have dropped, the living conditions in the house have improved and the community

considers PDT a responsible neighbor. It is also worth noting that the chapter house has been fully occupied by active members during each of the last 6 years.

The Sword & Shield

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 and friends. This newsletter affords a means of informing each alumnus of the chapter about the affairs of the Michigan Alpha active chapter membership and the Michigan Alpha Alumni Association while keeping alumni connected with one another. 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.

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Chapter House Back Parking Lot & Entrances Renovated

Annual Fund Donations Key in \$35,000 Project



Thanks to alums' generous support of the Annual Fund, this fall the Alumni Association was able to complete a \$35,000 all-cement renovation of the back parking lot; back door steps and landing; kitchen entrance wall and landing; and rear window wells. These important projects were on the Alumni Association's "to do" list for more than 10 years. The new parking lot added two spots to the capacity of the chapter house which will help to keep it fully occupied by active members.

Heritage Project

Help Us Display Chapter History, We Need Your Photos

Old Sword & Shield Newsletters Wanted

The long record of achievements by Michigan Alpha's individual members and the chapter as a whole has made Phi Delta Theta a leader in the U of M Greek System. The Alumni Association is committed to making sure future generations of Michigan Alpha are aware of our rich heritage.

The Trophy Room on the first floor of the chapter house is filled with photos, awards and other artifacts that tell the story of our past laurels while inspiring current active members to strive for new glories.

During Homecoming 2009 we were pleased to add to the collection an autographed framed copy of Time Magazine featuring Michigan football great and two-term Michigan Alpha chapter president **Bob Chappuis '48**.

The Alumni Association would like to add many more pictures to the walls of the Trophy Room in coming years, but we need your help. We know there are many noteworthy members and achievements of Michigan Alpha that have not yet been displayed.



In addition, the Alumni Association would like to obtain pictures that show everyday life in the fraternity. We wish to thank **Ted Spangler '40** for donating a collection of pictures that show activities at the fraternity during the late 1930s.

Send us your pictures and we'll make copies so that the originals can be returned to you. We would also like to copy old issues of The Sword & Shield newsletter. For more information, contact Alumni Association Secretary **Greg Karmazin '87** at (313) 510-1188 or gkarm@aol.com.

Active Chapter President's Fall Semester Report

Michigan Alpha is Having a Great Year

By John Sturgis '11



It has been an honor to serve as President of the active chapter for the last year. The Executive Council leaders, activities chairmen and all active members have formed a team in which everyone has had an important role in the fraternity's many accomplishments. I would like to report the highlights of the fall semester:

Fall Rush:

- Despite a tough rush environment for all fraternities due to the economic downturn, we recruited 12 outstanding Phikeias that we expect to activate before the end of the year.

According to the fraternity's records, the size of Michigan Alpha's fall pledge classes has averaged about 13 during the last 50 years, so we feel that we are on target for keeping the fraternity a tight membership that has been our hallmark of success.

Actives Membership Total and Residents of the Chapter House:

- 51 active members (63 when the fall pledges activate). Given we have a small senior class (only 6 members) graduating in 2010, we expect that our total membership will grow this year.
- 25 active members are living in the chapter house. There are 12 rooms occupied by actives (one room is reserved for the Resident Manager who is not a Phi), so we currently have a full house. This continues our trend of

having the house fully occupied for each of the last 6 years.

Intramural Sports:

- Won the IM "A" Team Championship in soccer with a 2 to 1 hard fought win over SAE.
- Participated in the IM "A" Team playoffs for every sport so far (soccer, volleyball, softball, etc...).
- Currently ranked 4th in the Fraternity League all-sports standings, and close to 3rd place.

Social Activities:

- Carry-in with Delta Gamma (DG) sorority.
- Drive-in movie event with Alpha Delta Pi sorority. We rented a giant inflatable movie screen and projector and watched the Iowa game at the chapter house.
- Football Saturday pre-game events with Alpha Epsilon Phi sorority.
- Winter formal planned.

Philanthropy:

- Working with Ann Arbor Active Against ALS (A2A3) to plan hosting the 2nd annual Boxcar Derby in spring 2010 to raise money and awareness for fighting Lou Gehrig's Disease.
- Participated in A2A3's field day sporting event. Activities focused on exercise and sports clinics for the children and adults.
- Co-hosted, with Alpha Delta Pi, the annual haunted house for children from Greenhills Elementary School. The event was held at our chapter house.

- Carwash charity fundraiser with (DG).

Chapter Grade Point Average:

- 3.1 (Near the all-men campus average).

Leadership in the U of M Greek System:

- Ann Arbor Campus Community Coalition presented Michigan Alpha with the "Unsung Heroes" award in recognition of our leadership on maintaining an alcohol-free chapter house.
- Alex Carrick served as Vice President of Rush Recruitment for Interfraternity Council.
- Brett Vasicek serving in the leadership of the Interfraternity Council.

Thank You and the Outlook for Continued Success

My term as President has now ended, but I am confident that our new president, **Tom Hardenburgh '12**, will work with all our very dedicated members of the new Executive Council to keep building on our achievements. We will not rest on our laurels.

With the continued strong support of our alumni, I firmly believe Michigan Alpha's best days are ahead. On behalf of the active chapter membership, I wish to thank the alumni donors to the Annual Fund and invite all Brothers in the Bond to visit the chapter house.

Phi Delta Theta is a fraternity for life and all alums are always welcome to say hello. The active members greatly appreciate the opportunity to meet alums. We hope that you will be able to attend our Founders Day Dinner on Sunday, March 7, 2010.

Michigan Alpha Athletes Chase IM Sports Trophy

PDT Defeats SAE in Soccer Championship Victory

With 24 teams in the fraternity division of the U of M Intramural Sports League, the competition is tough. PDT's emphasis on team unity has earned a hard fought 4th place in the league's all-sports standings in the fall season to date. Michigan Alpha looks forward to a successful winter sports season as it strives



for a top finish.

So far, the highlight of the fall season was PDT's close, but solid, 2-1 victory over traditional rival SAE in soccer. Other achievements include a 2nd place finish in golf (lost by 1 stroke) and runner up in track & field.

Senior in the Spotlight: Alex Carrick

Name: Alex Carrick

Hometown: Rochester, Michigan

Hometown High School: Stoney Creek

Pledge Class: Fall 2006

Major: Political Science

GPA: 3.1

Activities and Leadership Positions at U of M:

Interfraternity Council Vice President of



Rush Recruitment, Junior Interfraternity Council President, Greek Week Steering, Maize Rage Core (U of M basketball team student fan organization), and Move-in Makers

leadership (student support group).

Activities and leadership positions in Michigan Alpha:

Internal Vice President, Rush Recruitment Chair, Philanthropy Chair, Pledge Master and Greek Week Representative.

Experience in Michigan Alpha:

Incredible, one of the best experiences of my collegiate career. The fraternity has helped me develop into a leader, and enabled me to make friends I will have for the rest of my life.

Plans After Graduation:

I may seek a job on Capitol Hill or in the non-profit sector in Washington, D.C. I've also applied to be a leadership consultant for the PDT General Headquarters.

Alumni Profile

Judd Lofchie '80 Extends the Phi Delt Philanthropy Spirit Into His Alumni Years



Name and Class Year:

Judd Lofchie,
Class of 1980

Employer and Occupation:

Self-employed
Attorney/Developer/Realtor in Aurora, IL

Contact Information:

1585 Beverly Court #129, Aurora, IL 60502

Work phone: (630) 236-3600x3

E-mail: Judd@JLholdings.com

Family and Activities:

Single with an awesome 14-year-old son.
Rotary Club of Aurora.

Career Overview:

After graduation from U of M, I went to law school at Pepperdine University in southern California and then to graduate

law school earning a masters of laws (LLM) in International Business at American University in Washington, D.C.

I am a practicing attorney with my own small firm concentrating on real estate, business, estate planning and litigation. I also do commercial real estate as a broker and retail developer. I have been fortunate to have travelled across the world including many countries in Europe, Asia, Central America, Caribbean and Africa.

Interesting Career Fact or Experience:

My greatest achievements are not in business; rather, they are in philanthropic work. In 1992, I founded "StreetWise" newspaper (www.streetwise.org) for the homeless in Chicago as a non-profit charity which is still thriving 17 years later. We have helped more than 8,500 homeless men, women and teens get a job with the newspaper to earn money for food, medicine and housing. In addition,

I am president of my local Rotary Club.

Favorite Memory of Michigan Alpha:

It was especially fun to be the President of Michigan Alpha which helped me develop valuable leadership skills. I also enjoyed Century Club, "Lone Wolf" parties, the Mudbowl, Easter Golf outing, social events with sororities as well as football, basketball and hockey games.

Message for the Brothers:

Get involved in charity work as it will fulfill your life plus you will make great friends and business contacts. Check out your local Rotary Club as it is one of the greatest charitable and business networking clubs in the world (see Rotary.org). It would be great to hear from any Phis. Many thanks to JT Buck, Joe Fattore and others for keeping the fraternity alive!

Michigan Alpha 1954...55 years later still loyal to the fraternity.



Alumni in the News

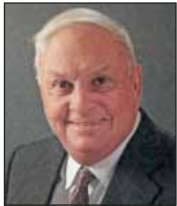
Michael Levitt '80

Michael Levitt BBA '80/JD '82 delivered the keynote address at the Michigan Private Equity Conference, hosted in September by the Samuel Zell & Robert H. Lurie Institute for Entrepreneurial Studies and the Center for Venture Capital and Private Equity Finance at the U of M Ross School of Business.

According to the U of M Business School newsletter, Levitt painted a picture of a near future filled with turbulence, but also full of opportunities. The newsletter's recap of his comments can be viewed at http://www.bus.umich.edu/NewsRoom/ArticleDisplay.asp?news_id=17454.

Levitt is the Chairman of Stone Tower Capital LLC. Stone Tower is a private investment firm with in excess of \$4 billion of assets under management. Prior to founding Stone Tower, Levitt was a Partner in the private equity investment firm Hicks, Muse, Tate & Furst. Before pursuing a career in the investment business, he served as an Investment Banker with both Morgan Stanley and Smith Barney.

Levitt has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Metro New York for the past ten years. He served as Chairman of the Board from 1996 through 2000. In addition, Levitt served on the Board of the Directors of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of America. He is also a member of the Advisory Board of the Hope and Heroes Children's Cancer Fund, and was a member of the Board of the New York Police & Fire Widow's & Children's Benefit Fund, Inc.



Norm Harbert '55

Norm Harbert '55 was featured in an article in the fall issue of the U of M College of Engineering Department's magazine. The article starts with a brief mention of his memories about Phi Delta Theta. The majority of the piece chronicles Harbert's impressive career starting with Reliance Electric in 1958 where he climbed the corporate ladder for 22 years before moving on to become President and Chief Executive Officer of Ajax Magnethermic Corporation. He then spent two years as Chairman, President and CEO of the Maverick Tube Corporation. He went on to co-found the Hawk Corporation in Cleveland which grew into a worldwide supplier of friction materials and motorsports components. Over the years, Harbert's peers have recognized his accomplishments through such honors as the Entrepreneur of the Year award for Northeastern Ohio. According to the article, Harbert enjoys playing golf and tennis as well as supporting the Cleveland Orchestra. Harbert and his wife are residents of Hiram, Ohio.



Bill Libby '54

Dr. William J. "Bill" Libby '54 was honored in October by the California State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection which presented him with its highest honor, the "Francis H. Raymond Award for Outstanding Contributions to California Forestry."

Dr. Libby is Professor Emeritus of Forest Genetics having taught forestry at the University of California, Berkeley between 1962 and 1994. His pioneering work in the field of forest tree genetics is internationally recognized and respected. Dr. Libby has practiced forestry on several continents and is well known for his work with California's coast redwood and Monterey pine trees.

Though he officially retired in 1994, Dr. Libby has continued to educate and advance knowledge in his field. He currently sits on the Board of the Save the Redwoods League with a focus on promoting research on redwood forest disturbance effects and the impacts of climate change on California's coast redwood and giant sequoia forests.

Alumni Updates



Chip Fowler '79

USN CAPT. Chip Fowler '79 reports that earlier this fall he "joined a 'mountain climbing' expedition in the Hindu Kush mountains in Afghanistan bordering Kabul and Parwan Provinces, and carried a small U of M flag for display at the summit." Fowler completed his final Navy deployment in early October and currently is in Sri Lanka with his wife Val enjoying 90 days of separation leave. After 30 years of distinguished service to our nation, he plans to retire from the Navy on January 5 during a small ceremony at the Army Navy Club in Washington, D.C. Fowler said brothers in the area are cordially invited to attend. He can be reached by e-mail at cwfsleddog@aol.com.

Chapter Grand



Since publication of our last newsletter, we have learned about the passing of:

Benjamin Sandipher Smith '43

Benjamin Sandipher Smith '43, a retired Detroit businessman and fine amateur golfer, died on July 21, 2009 in the Naples Community Hospital, Naples, Florida. Smith is survived by his wife of 58 years, Ann Pierce Smith, and his children.

Alumni Updates (Cont'd)

John D. Lobb, Jr. '39

(1015 Heatherwood Pl., McPherson, KS 67460-2122) Retired in 1984 after 21 years with NASA JSC Space Program Mercury Gemini Apollo Sky Lab and first 10 Shuttle flights. Thoroughly enjoyed it, including all the jobs I have had. Of course, there we some that I would rather not repeat!

Contribute to the 2009-2010 Annual Fund

The Annual Fund is the Alumni Association's main source of funding for:

- Maintenance and improvement to our historic 106-year-old chapter house.
- Publishing The Sword & Shield newsletter and hosting the Alumni Association's web site which features a secure online membership directory (www.pdtumich.com).
- Assisting the active chapter with special projects.

Help Phi Delta Theta stay the leader and best in the U of M Greek System! Send your gift to Phi Delta Theta at Michigan Alumni Relations Processing Center, P.O. Box 7007, Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007

Flashback 30 years ago... Michigan Alpha 1979. Where are they now?



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