

The Paragon

Alumni Newsletter of the Ohio Alpha Beta Chapter of Phi Kappa Theta Fraternity

Summer 2003

We'd Like Your Support

We hope you have been reading and enjoying the Paragon, the official printed newsletter of OAB Phi Kappa Theta alumni association, for the last few years.

For many of us, the alumni association once meant the esteemed Ernie Schmidt, who, for many years, carried on behind-the-scenes work for the preservation of the house and active chapter. I'm sure we will never know everything he did or how much money he paid from his own pocket to provide this invaluable service to Phi Kap brothers.

As with Ernie, many of the alumni organization monetary requirements are being paid for by alumni involved with the Alumni Board.

Annual Alumni Budget

Paragon Newsletters (2):	\$1000
National Fees:	\$150
Website Hosting:	\$120
TOTAL	\$1270

As you can see, the biggest expense is from printing and mailing the Paragon. If you would like to contribute to help offset the costs of the alumni association, you can do so in one of the following ways:

1. If you have an email address, let us know if you would be happy with an electronic (PDF) version of the printed Paragon. This would save up to \$5 per alumni per year. We would simply ask you to send an email to paragon@ohioalphabeta.org authorizing us to stop sending the printed Paragon.

2. You can continue to receive the printed and electronic version of the Paragon. But we ask that you consider making a small annual donation of \$5 to help us offset the printing and postage costs.

3. You can do either of the above and also donate to the alumni association to help cover the other budget expenses. Any amount would be appreciated.

To contribute, please send your check or money order to the **Ohio Alpha Beta Alumni Association of Phi Kappa Theta, PO Box 18082, Cleveland Hts., OH 44118**. Other payment options will soon be offered.

As always we appreciate your suggestions on how to make the Paragon more interesting, and we will continue to make it a publication worth reading.

YITB,
Joe Jirgal, 1988

Alumni Set New Goals, Elect New Officers

Brothers,

For more than sixty years the Ohio Alpha Beta chapter of Phi Kappa Theta has helped its members learn important lessons about leadership, serving the community and brotherhood. For most of that time the active brothers have done this on their own, with little or no assistance, from the vast reservoir of experience found in the more than 750 alumni. In the last several years, a few of our brothers have worked to kick start the Ohio Alpha Beta Alumni Association to connect and engage us while simultaneously providing assistance to the active brotherhood.

During the last calendar year the leadership Board of the Association met on a much more regular basis than ever before in our history and collaborated with the actives to accomplish a number of items. Some of the highlights include the following:

As announced in the last issue of the

Paragon, James Chang almost single-handedly created an online directory of our chapter's alumni. More than forty alumni have updated their information online and many more have used it to contact old friends.

Actives Kevin Duncan and Norm Kittrell worked with Scott Miller, the Alumni Board treasurer, to rewrite the housing contracts to bring them into alignment with Ohio law.

The Alumni Board became further involved in the Fraternity ritual. Scott was present at bid presentation in the spring semester, and board members served on several Member Evaluation Boards during the associate member program over the

Upcoming Events

July 5: Summer House Party

Nov. 22: Fall Initiation, Amasa
Stone Chapel, 9 pm



• Phi Kap Alumni and Actives join to celebrate a Brother's 21st birthday. Top: Chris Parker (active), Jack Chen (active), Jason Dolan (alum), Hiroshi Nobe (active, birthday guy), Nate Jacobsen (active), Steve DeBrosse (alum), Tom Anderson (active), Dan Liteplo (alum). Bottom: James Chang (alum), Andrew Hsia (alum), Kevin Duncan (active), Wayne Miller (active).

<http://www.ohioalphabeta.org>

2003-2004 Ohio Alpha Beta Alumni Board

President: Nathan Kossover

Vice-President: James Chang

Treasurer/VP Legal Affairs: Scott Miller

Secretary: Nick DeCenzo

Members-At-Large: Andrew Hsia, Joe Jirgal, Eric Malkin

Paragon Editor: Joe Banks

Immediate Past President: Eric Malkin

The Board would like to thank Dave Rowan and Brian Bacher for their hard work over the past year as members of the previous Board.

last two semesters. Several alumni were present at initiation and still more attended the Alumni Ritual in early May, which was planned jointly by the actives and the alumni.

Late in the fall semester the house nearly lost its property insurance due to policy changes, which meant our house was no longer up to code according to our insurance company. Eric Malkin, assisted by Rick DiLisi and others, helped the actives negotiate with the insurance company so that the house kept its insurance with a minimum of renovation costs.

Less exciting but equally important for the Board was the creation of by-laws for the Board to follow. As part of these by-laws, the Board took over any future collection of alumni debt. In an effort to prevent this from being necessary, the actives and the Board worked out intervention methods to jointly

handle active brothers whose debt reaches unacceptable levels.

In April, a new board was elected. We have an ambitious list of goals to further the aims of the board and the actives in the next year.

The Board hopes to further integrate itself into the ritual and the associate member program to help drive home the message that brotherhood does not end the day a brother receives his diploma. To that end, the Board will be sponsoring a fall rush event. We also will be writing letters to the parents of new associate members to assure them that joining Phi Kappa Theta is the best thing their son will do during his freshman year. We will continue to encourage alumni to attend the initiation and alumni rituals.

Finally, the Board is ultimately responsible for making sure that the house, which

Ernie Schmidt and so many others worked to provide for our brotherhood, continues to be safe and livable for the current residents. Although actives throughout the years have rehabilitated the house room by room, eighty years is catching up with it. The plumbing, electrical system and other areas will soon require more extensive renovation than can be funded by the actives or even a small loan. Over the course of the next year we will be exploring the issue in detail and ways to finance the project.

With the vast majority of the fraternities on campus scheduled to move into brand new university-owned housing in the next ten years, our chapter will have a unique recruiting advantage by owning its own house, but only if the house is brought up to modern standards. This project will take a vast amount of effort and many years, but with your help, we will finish it.

As you can see, we have a lot planned for the next year. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated with any of these projects. Perhaps you have some ideas of your own for things that the Association could pursue. Do not hesitate to contact me at nathankossover@yahoo.com. Together, we can help make the Ohio Alpha Beta Alumni Association a strong organization, and thereby help ensure that Phi Kappa Theta will remain the best fraternity on campus.

Yours in the Bonds,

Nathan Kossover '01

President, Ohio Alpha Beta Alumni Association

Website Brings Benefits, Updates Appreciated!

Our alumni website turns one year old in June, and we are pleased with its success. It has given Ohio Alpha Beta alumni both a source of information about recent activities and access to fellow brothers through our directory.

With almost 700 records, we are nearing our goal of finding every alum who has graduated from our fraternity. Ever since the directory went online, we have received corrections from many of you alumni and have cross-referenced with the CWRU alumni database. Over the summer, we hope to finish matching our directory information with the national fraternity.

While the primary feature of the website is the directory, we hope to add additional items such as accepting online donations, an expanded photo gallery of alumni gatherings and events, fundraising inquiries, and an enhanced calendar system.

We also hope to work with the actives' web site to design a virtual house tour. Also, we are pleased to let you know about the actives' work on our family trees. They can be viewed on their site at <http://phikap.cwru.edu>.

It is important for all OAB alumni to continue to periodically visit our web site for the latest news and

upcoming events. Updates, feedback, and suggestions are always appreciated.

James Chang, '00
VP/Webmaster

• Alumni Database

Result Set					
Category	First Name	Last Name	Grad Year	E-Mail	Details
Alumni	Timothy	Acree	1977		
Alumni	Joshua	Adams	2000	ja2@alumni.cwru.edu	
Alumni	James	Adams	1961		
Alumni	Michael	Ahrens	1970		
Alumni	Eljah	Ajarapu	1999	aj4@po.cwru.edu	
Alumni	Donald	Akers	1965		
Alumni	Robert	Alexovich	1952		
Alumni	Eric	Amlyon	1972		
Active	Tom	Andersen	2004	tja4@po.cwru.edu	
Alumni	John	Anderson	1990	ja14@alumni.cwru.edu	
Alumni	Thomas	Angeles	1989	tomang@saafco.com	
Alumni	Ranjit	Annamalai			
Alumni	Kevin	Anthony			
Alumni	Ralph	Anthony	1974		
Alumni	Louis	Antioiga	1976		
Alumni	Donald	Arndt			
Alumni	George	Aseff			
Alumni	Donald	Baar			
Alumni	Richard	Babik			
Alumni	Brian	Bacher			
Alumni	Robert	Bailey			

<http://www.ohioalphabeta.org>

Active Status

The 2002-2003 academic year proved to be another exciting and eventful one for the active chapter. We have worked to strengthen our relationship with the campus, other Greek organizations, and the Cleveland community while improving and building brotherhood.

This year, our chapter completed nearly 200 percent of our required philanthropy hours and accumulated enough hours to rank our chapter third on campus. "Boo at the Zoo," our largest and most popular service event, went very well this year. We were given a new boat to transform into our famed pirate ship since the original was nearly rotted away. Our name was featured on local television and in USA Today for our work at the Zoo.

Again this year, the chapter promoted the social atmosphere of CWRU by holding a number of open and closed parties. The parents of brothers and alumni were invited to the house for a Parent's Weekend, which included a barbeque and volleyball. Our house put on a respectable showing in Greek Week events, placing 12th overall and earning the Sportsmanship Award.

The major improvement project for the year has been gutting and rebuilding two bathrooms, one in the basement and one on the second floor.

Smaller projects have included patching drywall, fixing lighting, and the installation of a new washer and dryer. This summer, a number of very large projects have been scheduled, such as the washing and sealing of the back deck, renovation of the remaining bathrooms, retiling the kitchen floor, outdoor landscaping, and continued patch work.

While we continue these projects, we are taking into account a long-term plan for the house. The physical structure of the building is beginning to fail and plumbing and electrical systems are proving extremely inadequate. In addition, the windows and doors of the house are not sufficiently secure, nor are they insulated. In order to ensure the survival of our house, we must take these matters into serious consideration.

We have initiated six new members over the two semesters: Jack Chen, Ben Chodroff, Roman Perkis, Tim Sauline, Greg Szorc, and JT Trout. All have shown a great deal of promise and devotion to the house, and we are very proud to call them brothers



• Spring pledge dinner at Bucca Di Beppo's

in our Fraternity. Though sad to see them leave us, we are proud to announce the graduation of eleven brothers: Steve DeBrosse, Henry Drak, Sean Dunlop, Josh Ghiloni, Marc Goodwin, Tim Janezic, Daniel Liteplo, Dominic Real, Joe Reed, and Brad Roepstorff. In addition, Dashon Burton will be transferring to Oberlin College to finish his senior year as a music major. For the 2003-2004 year, our active chapter will consist of eighteen members.

Over the summer, twenty-seven people are staying in the house, some coming from as far as Penn State, Indiana University, and University of Michigan. For continued PR and campus exposure, we are sponsoring a summer volleyball tournament at the house among other activities.

Next year's rush will be extremely important to ensure that our membership does not drop any lower while at the same time trying to avoid a membership "bubble" that will cause problems in the next four years. We will be

focusing our efforts on improving our public image on campus and running a successful and exciting rush period. The chapter is also looking forward to greater cooperation and support from the Alumni Board.

Kevin Duncan '04
Active Alumni Chair



• Fall pledge trip to Washington D.C.

Attention OAB Alumni

Don't forget that you can hold your alumni event at the Chapter House. Contact Kevin Duncan, the current active alumni chair, at kxd31@cwru.edu or 11016 Magnolia Dr., Cleveland, OH 44106.

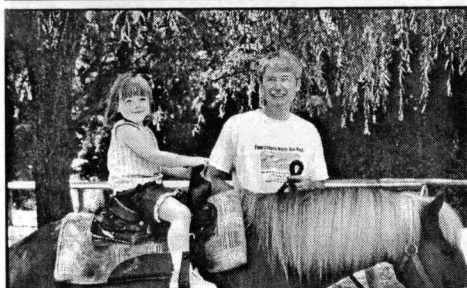
Missing Alumni

Please help us find the following alumni whose correct addresses we no longer have. If you have information about their whereabouts, please drop us a line at paragon@ohioalphabeta.org.

Timothy Acree	Ralph Melda
Joshua Adams	Richard Miltner
Rheinehardt Barger	Tod Nelson
Mark Beno	John O'Keefe
Robert Bubnick	Andy Orosz
William Buetler	Robert Papajcik
Michael Carter	Daniel Petrie
Robert Chan	George Pirics
Daniel Coviello	Timothy Porco
Mark Crow	Daniel Price
Charles Danneker	Thomas Pioreschi
Conrad Deletis	Robert Radle
Thomas Dilello	Robert Roberts
Douglas Dorn	Darin Roberts
Lawrence English	Frank Save!
Patrick Glynn	Robert Schafrik
Gary Gough	John Schen
Peter Greco	Bart Sharp
Samuel Greco	Robert Socha
William Hirsch	Lawrence Staller
Carl Italiano	Luis Velez
David Jargiello	Steven Wasko
Rich Kandrac	Schuyler Wavrek
Dor Koch	Bob Wheeler
Thomas Krotine	Paul Yanko
John Leone	Edward Yarnovich
Daniel Levstek	Anthony Zuppero
George Martin	

Where Are You Now?

Send 100 words and a photo to paragon@ohioalphabeta.org or by mail to Phi Kappa Theta OAB Alumni, PO Box 18082, Cleveland Hts., OH 44118.



1974

Ron Buta

I was a member of PKT from 1971-1974. After I left CWRU, I received a master's degree in physics from Michigan State University and a PhD in astronomy from the University of Texas at Austin. I was a post-doctoral fellow in astronomy at the Australian National University in the mid 80s. Since 1989, I have been a professor of astronomy at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, where I teach Introductory Astronomy and graduate level courses in galactic and extragalactic astronomy.

My research interests have centered on the morphology and dynamics of external galaxies. My approach has been mostly observational, and I have used many telescopes, ranging from those at McDonald Observatory in West Texas to the Hubble Space Telescope. I also dabble in amateur paleontology and have been involved in a major project to document fossil pre-dinosaur animal trackways in Alabama. I am married to Deborah A. Crocker, who I met at the University of Texas in 1986, and have two daughters, Sarah (12) and

Katie (5), the latter who is shown in the accompanying photo, taken two years ago.

Websites

Hubble Space Telescope study of spiral galaxy NGC 4622

<http://heritage.stsci.edu/2002/03/index.html>

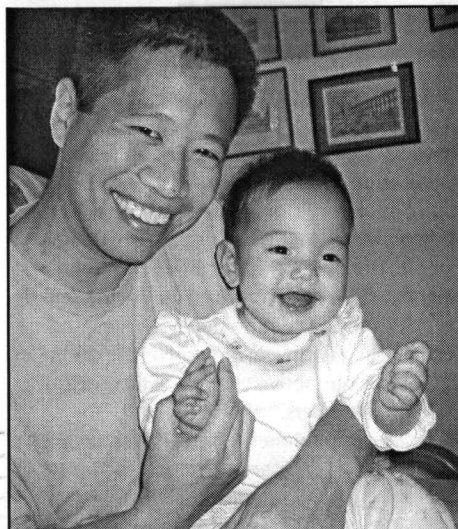
Fossil Track Project

<http://bama.ua.edu/~rbuta/monograph/>

1990

Leigh Yu

Greetings from Vienna, Virginia (just outside of Washington DC)! It's hard to believe it's been almost 18 years since I began college; people born when I first entered, are now entering college themselves. On the other hand, I feel as though my real life is just beginning. As you can see from the photo, I have a brand new baby girl, Audrey. The picture was taken by Brother Chris



Hoge, when he was temporarily back in the country with his Namibian wife, Kapala. Audrey turned 10 months old on May 28th and is an absolute joy (oh yeah, her mother is nice too).

Recently, I became Program Manager for Frontier Technology, Inc., a small company that I've been with for nearly six years. I keep thinking they're going to catch on that I'm a slacker at heart, but I've got them quite fooled. My main task is support for the Air Force Studies and Analyses Agency; most of my cohorts are Operations Research types (which I can only laugh at, given my final semester grade in my OR Simulation class). Still, I was privileged to present a paper at this year's Behavioral Representation in Modeling and Simulation Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona.

One of these days, I'm going to send digital video of two of our Greek Week Variety Shows (I think 1988 and 1989) to our PKT webmaster. For those of you who participated in these: Prepare to be taunted. The clips have brought great amusement to my lovely wife, Patty.

Oh, and for any of you who might remember Westminster Tabby (my cat), he's still alive and kicking after all these years!

2002

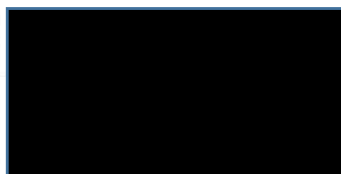
John Dutton

I am in Chokwe, Mozambique (on Africa's east coast) teaching Biology to 400 ninth graders. And really, my job isn't that simple because... I'm American. And being American here is a tremendous challenge every day. I'm never just another face, just another teacher. In the States, everyone has different layers of the same onion; here, I'm just a completely different onion. But in a lot of ways I was completely prepared for the challenge. And Phi Kappa Theta is a big reason why.

The Paragon is published by and for the alumni of the Ohio Alpha Beta Chapter of Phi Kappa Theta as the print complement to the eParagon email list and the alumni website online at <http://www.ohioalphabeta.org>. This edition edited by Joe Banks (paragon@ohioalphabeta.org) with ample assistance from all contributing Brothers. If you would like to become active on the board, e-mail Alumni Association President Nathan Kossover at nathankossover@yahoo.com.

Ohio Alpha Beta Alumni
Association of Phi Kappa Theta
P.O. Box 18082
Cleveland Hts, OH 44118

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Thanks to everyone who came out for our Happy Hour on June 13th!

For future announcements, be sure to visit the website at <http://www.ohioalphabeta.org>.