

PHI MU ALPHA
SINFONIA
XI MU CHAPTER

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- Message from the President
- Fundraising
- 15th Anniversary Celebration
- ARO Report
- Pledge Class Updates
- National Convention
- Trip to Lyrecrest
- 2009 Election Results



Spring 2009

Message from the President:

It is with honor and great pleasure that I welcome you to another edition of the Xi Mu Chapter's Alumni Newsletter. With the Fall 2008 semester behind us, the Spring 2009 semester is progressing well, and I hope that each of you will take pride in the work that our chapter has done so far and the strides that it has made this year.

During my time as President, I feel that we have been able to make great progress in the area of chapter operation and with our relations with the Department of Music. I also feel a heightened sense of brotherhood among the members of the chapter, and it pleases me to see common visions and attitudes beginning to develop. There have been plenty of obstacles along the way, but in the end, we overcome them together and become better for it.

The Chapter will hold the Sinfonia Concert Band Festival in May 2009 for local High School Concert Bands, and we held the Dr. Michael Arenson Jazz Composition Competition in honor of our Faculty Advisor Emeritus earlier this spring. We have our American Music Recital scheduled for Saturday May 16th at 5:30pm in Loudis Recital Hall. We also have planned multiple Mills Music Missions, which are the philanthropy of our great

Fraternity. We are also continuing our success with fundraising—we were able to raise 95% percent of our fundraising goal last semester alone!



As always, I wish each of you the best and hope that all of your personal endeavors have led you down great pathways of success and prosperity. For those of you who may not have been able to reconnect with us lately, please let us know how you are doing and what is going on in your life—it's always great to hear of the successes of our alumni as they embark down their life-long journeys as Sinfonians. Send an email to the active member list (ximu-active@udel.edu) and take a look at our website to see what is going on in our chapter!

Brothers, the future of the Xi Mu Chapter continues to seem as bright as ever. As we continue along our journeys as collegiate members, we hope to be able to learn from each of you about where Xi Mu has been, and we hope that we can share with you where Xi Mu and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia is going.

Fraternally, in Phi Mu and Alpha,
Jason D. Angelo

Fundraising

by Jon Bleiweis

Over the course of this school year, the Xi Mu Chapter has been putting the FUN in fundraising by invading local eateries in order to raise funds for the chapter. Our Special Projects Committee Fundraising Mob Squad, led by Matt Colman (AΔ) and his trusty sidekick Ben Owens (AE), has gone up and down Elkton Rd. and Main St. to get the chapter some awesome opportunities. In the fall, Xi Mu ran the Korner Diner for a night. With the exception of cooking, we did everything, including being the wait staff and making milkshakes. In the Spring, we are hoping to do the first ever fundraiser at our home away from home, Daffy Deli. We are also looking into possible fundraisers at Eagle Diner, and UD-area newcomers Kildare's and Buffalo Wild Wings. Be sure to go on the website to find out the latest information about our chapter's future endeavors!



Brother Chris Gage waits on a customer at the Korner Diner fundraiser.

15th Anniversary Celebration

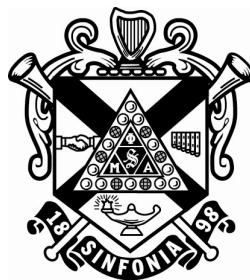


by Alex McDonald *Group shot at the 15th Celebration* what they would like

This past March the Xi Mu chapter at the University of Delaware celebrated its 15th Anniversary with a full day of events. The day started around 1pm with a mini-breakfast buffet of bagels, orange juice, milk, and spreads. During this time brothers, both active and alumni, were able to look through the new Xi Mu Yearbook (which is available on the website) and other photo albums. After an hour of socializing and reminiscing, the brothers went into the Loudis Recital Hall for a special alumni ritual. Following that, many pictures were taken with brothers young and old. The brothers then moved the event over to Main Street's Kildare's Irish Pub for lunch. This was a time for alumni to meet the younger brothers and vice versa over what every brother loves... Food! Lunch was concluded with a serenade for the waitresses. Brothers then returned to Loudis for the Chapter Day Ceremony lead by our President, Jason Angelo. The day's events concluded with Brother Angelo asking the alumni



Alumni Ritual Cast



ARO Report ARO Report

by Alex Blau

Why hello there Brothers in Phi Mu and Alpha! It's hard to imagine that an entire year has passed since the last alumni newsletter was sent out. It truly does feel like such a short amount of time. Yet in that time, our chapter has accomplished so much.

As many of you know, our chapter celebrated its 15th anniversary on March 19, 2009. Remember though, that March 19 marked the first of 365 days of Xi Mu's 15th year at the University of Delaware. I ask that each of you honor our chapters 15 great years at Delaware by acting a brothers part. Remember that Sinfonia is a life long journey and that it has not ended, even though you have left our beloved *Alma Mater*. Try your hardest to make it to at least one alumni event a year, stay in contact with your fellow brothers, consider attending the National Convention or making a donation to the S.E.F. You all have very busy lives. But are they so busy that you cannot sacrifice just one day of the year to devote to Sinfonia?

All that being said, I truly do believe this chapter has the best alumni around! We hope to have many more fun and exciting events planned for the alumni in the future, including a Blue Rocks game, a BBQ, and maybe even a Xi Mu sweet 16 in 2010!

I hope to see many of you again soon. Take care and remember;

OAS AAS LLS!

Yours truly,
In ΦMA,
Alex Blau

Photos!



A serenade during the AZ probationary class recital



AZ with their ritual cast after their initiation.



Brothers at P27 Workshop receiving their citations.



Sinfonians play sports? Apparently so!



Brothers stopping for lunch at Northern Kentucky University on their way back from Lyrecrest.



Brothers outside at Lyrecrest.

by Greg LaLuna

(The Alpha Epsilon class was initiated into the Xi Mu Chapter on November 16, 2008)

AE

elation. Our audience was only looking for entertainment and compassion, exactly what we delivered. These unforgettable, stressful, and enlightening eve-

Look at the crowd of ten boys making up the Alpha Epsilon Probationary Class and you'll notice seemingly unremarkable appearances; however, such an observation would overlook the silent unity which unquestionably binds us together. I only vaguely knew these fellow musicians, my future probationary class, during the first month at college. A face here or trombone player there were the only familiarities; however, I quickly learned the names and personalities of these students who each brought unique energy, quirks, and talents to the AE class.

Our bond was born at the first rush night events. From the pinning ceremony throughout every late night probationary meeting and color night this connection was constantly strengthened. We shared an uncertainty for the fraternity's plans but we kept on moving forward, putting faith in the older brothers' hands. The anticipation and excitement of the semester accelerated time, and eventually the PM recital arrived. Not only was it a memorable night of great music but there was poetry, soliloquies, and even the Harry Potter puppet pals. The next step in the initiation process was our first Mills Music Mission. It was easy to feel nervous that day, many of us had never sung before and our first audience would be a group of elderly men and women we had never met, but after the mission we felt pure



AE and AZ (with FEO Jim Bass) Probationary Classes

nings ensured that the members of AE were brothers weeks before the initiation ritual. The AE class has reached a wonderful balance of respectful unity and individual talents. Whether by their musical talents, senses of humor, or Jack Sparrow impersonations, AE has never failed to entertain and enliven me. Like all brothers, we have varying interests, we disagree, and our futures will likely separate us, but we will always share the probationary experience indelibly written onto our hearts.

by Jim Bass, FEO

AZ

(The Alpha Zeta class was initiated into the Xi Mu Chapter on May 3, 2009)

This semester we will be welcoming into our brotherhood the three upstanding young men of the Alpha Zeta probationary class.

- Derrick Kelley is a freshman music major from Dover, DE. According to Brother Gage, Derrick is well-versed in the difference between a fountain pen and a calligraphy pen.
- Liam McCartney, from Newburgh, NY, is a sophomore double majoring in music and political science. He is, in fact, related to Sir Paul.
- Jeff Starr is also a freshman music major. Jeff hails from Parsippany, NJ, and is undoubtedly the best athlete Xi Mu has seen in recent years.

All of Alpha Zeta have shown great zeal for the ideals of our fraternity and will bring great assets to the group. They organized and helped execute our most recent Mills Music Mission at Christiana Hospital on March 21st. The event was a great success and all present had a wonderful time, praising Alpha Zeta for a job well done.



2009 NATIONAL CONVENTION JULY 15-19, 2009 ORLANDO, FLORIDA

by Andrew Tremblay

This Convention is setting up to be one of the biggest, and best conventions that the fraternity has ever seen. In addition to the usual great break-outs, ritual, Gala banquet, and always-interesting legislative session - which will include highly anticipated ritual revisions, this time around - the 2009 Convention will feature performances by three ensembles composed entirely of brothers: a men's chorus, wind ensemble, and big band.

Among the highlights: Sinfonia Jazz will perform alongside jazz great Jamey Aebersold. Sinfonia Voices will premiere a men's chorus arrangement of Eric Whitacre's "The Seal Lullaby." And Sinfonia Winds will be conducted by renowned composer Frank Ticheli as

they perform one of his compositions, just prior to his initiation as a national honorary member.

To encourage members of "the Empire" to attend Convention, and to make travelling more affordable, Province 27 has subsidized our travel expenses. For only a few bucks, brothers from Province 27 will have a great way to get to-and-from Orlando. The opportunity, of course, is open to alumni as well. Anyone who is interested in the Province 27 transportation should contact me (Andrew Tremblay - adt@udel.edu or 774-644-6477) by May 15.

As always, alumni are encouraged to take part in the Sinfonia experience. Going to Convention will be a great opportunity to relive all of your amazing, meaningful colle

giate experiences.

Thinking of going to Convention? There is lots of information on the Convention website, <http://convention.sinfonia.org>. Registration is open until May 8.

The 2009 Convention will be an extraordinary and momentous gathering of hundreds of brothers. It will inspire and motivate men to continue advancing the great object of this fraternity and continue living as men of the highest type.

A Phi Mu Alpha National Convention inspires, in the words of Percy Jewett Burrell, "that indescribable 'something' which keeps any fraternity alive... to meet and mingle and measure up side by side with brothers from everywhere, bound by a common bond which no geographical lone can sever."

Xi Mu Goes to Lyrecrest!

by Jon Bleiweis

Over Spring Break, eight brothers of the Xi Mu chapter got to explore the country and take the long drive to Lyrecrest!

Leaving Newark bright and early on Wednesday April 1, after a battery failed, we arrived at Lyrecrest around 11:30pm local time, after stopping at Marshall University for dinner with some brothers there. At Lyrecrest, Retreat Coordinator Will Lambert greeted us and gave us an in-depth tour of headquarters.

The next day we spent the day with Will and went through a number of chapter development and brotherhood building activities. We also had dinner at a fantastic BBQ restaurant.

Friday we got up early, cleaned up, packed up, and left for Newark, stopping to meet brothers at the University of Northern Kentucky for lunch and Youngstown University for dinner, arriving in Newark at 5am.

The trip was lots of fun for all, and a great fraternal experience. Plus, Jim Bass nearly burned down Lyrecrest! Ask a brother who went about that and for more stories. Pictures are up on the website.

HAVE YOU SEEN THESE BROTHERS?

These Brothers are currently "lost" to the fraternity and we need your help finding them. If you have any information on their whereabouts please contact abblau@udel.edu Also, if your contact information has changed at all, please let us know!

Jason Charles Breeding
Derek Edward Goodman
Eric Andrew Fine

Elections 2009!

The Xi Mu Chapter recently held elections. The new officers for the 2009-2010 school year are as follows:

President: Br. Jason D. Angelo
Vice-President: Br. Andrew D. Tremblay
Secretary: Br. Cameron C. Miller
Treasurer: Br. Jonathan A. Bleiweis
Warden: Br. Matthew J. Pisarcik
Alumni Relations Officer: Br. Alexander B. Blau
Fraternity Education Officer: Br. James R. Bass
Historian: Br. Matthew J. Colman
Web Page Technician: Br. Jonathan A. Bleiweis
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Charles D. Carson