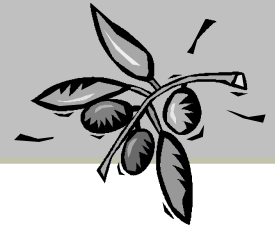


# BITS & PIECES



*The Official Newsletter of Section 56, Alpha Phi Omega Service Fraternity*

## Section Chair's Corner

By Pat Bickley, Section 56 Chair

Welcome back everyone to the start of a new year. Hopefully by now everyone has had a chance to get back up to speed, and get their chapters rolling again after a long (and enjoyable, I hope) summer off.

One of the most important jobs we as a fraternity have is recruiting and pledging new brothers each year. Not only do we have to replace those brothers who have graduated, but also those who have, for whatever reason, decided not to return. Failing to have a successful pledge class can be devastating to a chapter. Not only are you looking to bring in a group of new brothers, but these new faces will be running your chapter in only a year or two.

In APO LEADS, one of the characteristics of a leader that we discuss is Stewardship. Stewardship refers to how we care for our chapters now, as well as how we prepare them for the future. Recruiting new members, then taking good care of them all the way through the pledging process is the most important thing you can do to help your chapter become and stay strong. You are laying the groundwork for the future.

I'm pleased to announce that Lori Lawson has joined your section staff as Membership Chair. Lori is a former Pledgemaster and Membership VP, and will be a great resource for the section. However, we can't answer your questions or help with ideas unless we are asked. Lori can be emailed at [prplfrog1009@yahoo.com](mailto:prplfrog1009@yahoo.com).

As always, I'm here to answer questions and help you brainstorm as well. I'm looking forward to a great year, and I see adding new

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Section Chair's Corner	1
Section Staff E-mail List	1
Region 5 Conference Wrap-Up	2
Zeta Lambda Boogies Down at Barefoot on the Beach	2
Car Wash Anyone?	3
Mount St. Joseph Keeps Busy	3
BGSU's Service Program Off To a Great Start!	4
Open Membership / Board Restructuring	5
Advisor Spotlight – Gordy Heminger	6
National Goal Spotlight	7

brothers as a crucial part of that year.

In L, F, & S,

Pat Bickley

### Section Staff Contact List

Section Chair / AEB Rep. – Pat Bickley

[pbickley@woh.rr.com](mailto:pbickley@woh.rr.com)

Communications Chair – Matt Bailey

[mmmwt@yahoo.com](mailto:mmmwt@yahoo.com)

Membership Chair / ZL Rep. – Lori Lawson

[Lori\\_Sonntag@yahoo.com](mailto:Lori_Sonntag@yahoo.com)

Awards Chair / ZK Rep. – Christi Bickley

[cbickley@woh.rr.com](mailto:cbickley@woh.rr.com)

Service Chair / AGX Rep. – Mindi Wynne

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

S/YS Chair / ZD Rep. – Heather Moore

[moorehm@muohio.edu](mailto:moorehm@muohio.edu)

Sectional Conf. Advisor / DA Rep. – Shawn Jeffers

[smj145@msn.com](mailto:smj145@msn.com)

Leadership Development Chair – Melody Martin

[mayajake@yahoo.com](mailto:mayajake@yahoo.com)

AGO Rep – Jeff Garvin

[jgarvin@heidelberg.edu](mailto:jgarvin@heidelberg.edu)

Mt. St. Joseph PG Rep – Mike Schrader

[apobro@hotmail.com](mailto:apobro@hotmail.com)

## Region 5 Conference Wrap-Up!

The Region 5 Conference was recently hosted by Marshall University in Huntington, WV. The conference's theme was "Come on Down" and over 200 brothers from all around the Region did just that! Representing Section 56 were Delta Alpha, Zeta Delta, Zeta Lambda, And Alpha Gamma Xi

Opportunities for fellowship and learning were abundant. Friday night, in addition to seeing all those friends from other chapters that we haven't seen since last conference, there was a game night and a showing of the Rocky Horror Picture Show.

Saturday provided a number of workshop opportunities ranging from small chapter survival to stage makeup instruction, and from "What to do with Advisors" to learning how to crochet. Each of the Sections also held individual meetings, and joined in an entire region meeting.

The conference ended with a fantastic banquet, with a keynote address from this year's Pledge Class Namesake, Jerry Schroeder. The Region Director gave out several awards, including the Chapter of Excellence Award to Zeta Delta, and a Section 59 DSK to Regina Forbes.

## Zeta Lambda Boogies Down at Barefoot on the Beach

By Amy O'Brien, Zeta Lambda President

Zeta Lambda had quite an eventful summer this year, the biggest event we had was Barefoot on the Beach. Barefoot on the Beach is a big party at Maumee Bay State Park, which benefits the Boys and Girls Club of Toledo. For those of you who may not know The Boys and Girls Club is a non-profit organization that provides under privileged children in the community a center to go to and hang out at after school and on weekends. These facilities are all around Toledo, Ohio and are open year round. The cost of yearly membership is only \$5, so they rely almost entirely on this one big fund raiser they do each year, Barefoot at the Beach.

Our jobs at this event were about as diverse as the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity itself. We had much to do with both the set up and tear of this event, but you know us, we can have fun doing anything... even trash duty. By far the best job we had over the three day event was bar tending. We know how to shake 'um up better than anyone! In true Alpha Phi Omega fashion that night we

boogied down on the dance floor and where even seen doing the limbo. Zeta Lambda has mad skills at limbo by the way! Needless to say the weekend was a blast and we were able to support a truly wonderful cause in the process!



*Zeta Lambda members serving up drinks and entertainment at Barefoot on the Beach.*

## Car Wash Anyone?

By Ellen Shannon, SRN Rep., Zeta Delta

On September 17, 2005, the Zeta Delta chapter had a car wash to raise money for the Hurricane Katrina victims and to have a service that involved all the members of our chapter. We raised 363 dollars during our 3 hour project. While most of the cars were from Actives and an Advisor, people gave us donations as they drove by. We had five guys of our chapter sacrificed their chests to write the 'Car Wash' in permanent marker and on our backs wrote 'Katrina.' It was a fun day, especially when watching the guys yell at cars to stop and get their car washed.

But all and all that is just one of the things we started to do this year. A couple other things new for us are an online sign up for service projects, and an Active Amnesty Month so that our associates can come back into the chapter as long as they pay their dues. Our chapter is settling down for the semester

## Mount St. Joe Keeps Busy!

By Erin Bleha, President – Mount St. Joseph P.G.

We've been busy preparing to submit our Charter Application! We spent the summer and the school year so far recruiting members, planning projects and fellowships, and getting ourselves organized.

We set up tables at the Campus Fairs that took place during the summer orientations and the first weeks of school to tell people about Alpha Phi Omega and recruit some new members. We made cards for the Hurricane Katrina victims at one of our meetings and went bowling for our first fellowship of the year!

We are planning on helping out at the TOP Soccer Fall Classic in October. We are also going to



*Zeta Delta members flag down cars to raise money for hurricane relief.*

and our service projects. Good luck with your own chapters and have fun with the service projects.

## HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO MIAMI FOR WINNING THE REGION'S 1<sup>st</sup> EVER CHAPTER OF EXCELLENCE AWARD.

sponsor a raffle for a beautiful afghan to benefit the Findlay Neighborhood Center. We are going to put a lot of effort into recruiting more members this semester as well. The rest of our time will probably be spent filling out paperwork and completing the other requirements so we can become a Chapter!



## BGSU's Service Program – Off To a Great Start!

By Elisa Lowe, PR Rep., Bowling Green State University

The Zeta-Kappa chapter at Bowling Green State University has had a very exciting start to the new school year. We have participated in many service projects to jump-start the semester. We first started out the semester volunteering at the local Levis-Commons Shopping Center for their annual Art Festival. It was a great success. We had many people from chapter come to help, shop, and have fun. We are currently receiving monetary items and food items to help benefit the Hurricane Katrina effort. We also participated in the Susan G. Koman Breast Cancer College Tour as a campus

service project. We helped to raise awareness about the importance of breast cancer research. We are also very involved once again with Josina Lott, which is a center for mentally handicapped or disabled middle age to elderly adults. During our rush informational meeting we made Halloween cards for all the residents. We have also continued to do service projects volunteering or supplying food items to local soup kitchens. Our biggest upcoming service project is our annual Rock-A-Thon. During APhiO's national service week we will rock in rocking chairs for 24hrs to raise money for Habitat for Humanity.

### Top Quotes from the Region 5 Conference:

- "Yeah, let's play 'Rock, Paper, Syphilis.'"
- "We weren't staying at the Executive Suites, it was the 'Executive Sleaze,' complete with 25 cent peep show across the street."
- "\$40 gives you a great show!"
- "I swear there was a dead guy in the car in the parking lot of the hotel."
- "I know you - you gave us porn!"
- "Abigail just gets scared faces around you."
- "I was blowing and blowing and nothing happened! Oh wait - I was blowing on the wrong end!"
- "If you keep bumping me, I'm going to pee on you, Matt. I'm having my usual post-banquet Toast Song problems."

We have also had many opportunities to build chapter fellowship. Recently, chapter took a camping trip to Canada for a weekend. It was very successful and everyone came home feeling closer to his or her brothers than they had before they went. Our chapter also has a team to compete in BGSU's intramural flag football tournament. We are hosting our second annual Alumni/Family event before BGSU's homecoming football game. In addition, Dashboard Confessional is coming to play in our arena, and we are going as a chapter to the concert.

Our recruitment week was very successful. We had a wonderful and positive turnout from students on campus who are looking to become more involved. The amount of students we have interested could nearly double the size of our chapter currently. We are thrilled with their interest and are actively pursuing their membership.

We are so excited about getting involved with all the service projects we have planned and taking advantage of our fellowship events to help build chapter unity. Our council and executive board have been working very hard to develop our service projects and fellowship events. The Zeta Kappa chapter at Bowling Green State University has a wonderful group of people and is on the right track to have a very successful school year.

## Open Membership / Board Restructuring Proposal

Two actions of the National Board at the July 2005 meeting have been quite the topic of discussion lately. These actions are the Resolution concerning open membership and the proposed plan for the National Board restructuring. Included in this article are information related to both.

For further information regarding both issues, please contact your Section Chair or the Region Director, Adam Bolain. Both of these issues were discussed in detail at the past Regional Conference, and will likely continue to be discussed until the next National Convention in Louisville, Dec. 27-30 2006.

Regarding Open Membership: Dr. Moore moved, seconded and passed unanimously by those present and voting to adopt the following resolution. Dr. Carpenter and Mr. Schroeder abstained.

### Resolution

**Whereas**, open and diverse membership is a core value of Alpha Phi Omega; and

**Whereas**, open membership as it appears in our bylaws is not clearly defined and is open to multiple interpretations; and

**Whereas**, the actions of the 1976 and 1998 National Conventions have attempted to clarify the Fraternity's open membership policy; and

**Whereas**, Alpha Phi Omega has a strong history of eliminating barriers to inclusion; and

**Whereas**, social and legal climates have evolved significantly in the last 30 years; and

**Whereas**, we recognize and acknowledge the contributions that all-male chapters have made to their campuses and communities; and

**Whereas**, the National Board is charged with, among other things, enforcing the membership policies of the Fraternity as well as ensuring compliance with applicable laws; and

**Whereas**, the National Board is also responsible for the long-term interests of the fraternity,

**Be it resolved that**, in the interest of advancing Alpha Phi Omega and upon advice of legal counsel, all chapters must practice open membership without regard of gender.

**Be it further resolved that**, Regional Directors are strongly encouraged to provide educational and discussion opportunities related to this topic at their respective Regional Conferences. The Board further directs the National President to appoint a committee to develop a transition plan and timeline for implementation of open memberships for all chapters to the National Board of Directors at their February 2006 meeting. The majority of this committee shall consist of active members from all male chapters.

To that extent, the Board has convened an implementation committee that will plan the integration in these 17 chapters that are affected. Look for more information about the Committee's work to come out soon!

Responding to a resolution from the 2002 National Convention, the Fraternity has also been researching the possibilities of a new structure for the National Board. Currently, there are 41 members on the National Board, which sometimes makes its decision-making processes a little complicated. The directions from the National Convention included instruction to clarify the purpose of the National Board between strategic & operational, look at reducing the size of the Board, and including a student member on the Board.

Presentations were made at the National Volunteer Conference and at the Region 5 Conference concerning the recommendation of the restructuring committee. The summary of the new Board makeup is herein included. Look for more information on this plan as Louisville approaches, as some of the specifics need to be worked out and will require student input.

The proposed new Board will look like this: Regions will select a representative to a student advisory board - the board selects a chair & chair-elect.

Please see **Board Action** on page 6

**Board Action**, continued from page 5.

The chair of the student board will serve as a voting member of the National Board. The National Convention will continue to directly elect the President & Vice President. The National Convention will elect 5-6 at-large members w/ no specific assignment. (The Board will elect one of its own members to serve as National Treasurer). Regional Directors (RD's) will continue to be elected by the Regions, and will elect 2 persons to the National Board. Two Past National Presidents will serve on the Board. This Board will elect three of its own members. Ex-officio members as needed

Allowing the Board to select three of its own members will allow the Fraternity to approach people of significance in large corporations or Universities whose participation in the Fraternity would be beneficial, but would not be likely to go through the usual route required to be elected to the Board.

No direction was given by the committee as to how the student members will be selected by the regions. The Fraternity, however, will provide some financial support to the Chair / Chair-elect to enable them to attend the meetings.

It was suggested that the number of Board meetings be increased to 3-4 per year.

Apart from Audit / Financial / Long Range Planning, the National committee chairs will not be members of the Board. They will in effect become the new PD's. No mention was made of their appointment. The persons that the RD's select to serve on the Board could be sitting RD's or someone else they select. The at-large members will have as yet undefined duties.

Concerns were brought up about geographic representation without all of the RD's on the Board, and mentoring of the Student members. These are issues that still need to be looked at.

## Advisor's Spotlight

A new feature in this edition of the Bits & Pieces newsletter is the "Advisor's Spotlight." Designed to shed a little light on those volunteers who give of themselves to help our chapters, we'll be spotlighting a Chapter Advisor from a different chapter in each issue. If there are specific questions you'd liked to see asked, just let us know!

Advisor: Gordy Heminger

Chapter: Zeta Kappa, Bowling Green State University.

### 1. What is your name / degree / position at your school?

*Gordy Heminger, Political Science Undergrad, College Student Personnel Masters, Coordinator of Student Organization Services at BGSU*

### 2. How long have you been a Brother of Alpha Phi Omega? How did you become involved? Were you an Active?

*One year - initiated in April 2004. I was their faculty Advisor for a year before I was initiated and I was asked to be faculty Advisor by some of the Brothers who came to know me through my position. I wasn't an Active.*

### 3. What do you think Alpha Phi Omega has to offer college students?

*An opportunity to make a smaller community among a larger institution. The chance to continue to do things that students did in high school (community service, leadership) or if students weren't involved in high school, a chance to get involved now.*

Please see **Advisor** on page 7

*Advisor*<sub>2</sub> continued from page 6

**4. What philosophy do you follow in advising your chapter?**

*It's a student-run chapter, this is their college experience, and I am a resource but not a doer. They are going to make mistakes and that's part of the experience. My will shouldn't be imposed upon the chapter*

**5. Name one thing your chapter does well and one area it could improve.**

*The chapter does a great job in constantly examining themselves and how to improve. I think the chapter does well at service and recruitment but could improve retention and fellowship.*

**6. What is one of your favorite Alpha Phi Omega memories?**

*Watching the group set a goal and accomplish the goal such as restructuring*

**7. What are some of your hobbies?**

*I love sports, reality TV, and politics.*

**8. An interesting fact about you that your students don't know:**

*I was the youngest person ever elected to Maumee City Council when I was a student at BGSU.*

Many thanks to Gordy for participating in our first Advisor's Spotlight. Let's always remember to thank our Advisors and Alumni volunteers for the excellent work they do.

## SAVE THE DATE!

*The University of Cincinnati is proud to host the Section 56/59 Conference in Spring. Mark your calendars for the weekend of March 31st - April 2nd. This conference is going to be like none you've ever seen before -- literally. More details to come in the following months. This ain't no joke for April Fools Day either! Hope to see you there, you won't want to miss it!*



Gordy Heminger, Zeta Kappa Advisor

## National Goal Spotlight

*"Alpha Phi Omega will deliver the Fraternity's leadership program to internal & external audiences by 2015. (Including to pre-college students in 75% of the sections.)"*

Ideally, this means delivering some facet of the APOLeads program, usually Launch, to pre-college students. However, before we can take that route, we need to reach out to pre-college students to make the aware of the Fraternity. How can we do this?

- Contact your local Boy / Girl Scout councils. Ask to make informational presentations to troops with older scouts.
- Contact your college's recruiter – ask to accompany them to college fairs and on school visits to speak to Seniors.
- Invite these youth to specific service / fellowship projects – Seniors in High School love to feel part of the college crowd!
- Don't limit your informational tables to the fall & spring – ask your school how you can be part of summer orientation
- Ask to include rush information / a small gift in the welcome packet for Freshmen moving into your residence halls.

**Send Newsletter Articles To:**

**Pat Bickley, Section Chair**  
204 Capital Lane  
Findlay, OH 45840

**E-Mail:**  
pbickley@woh.rr.com

**Matt Bailey, Communications Chair**  
711 Pine Valley Lane #201  
Toledo, OH 43615

**E-Mail:**  
mmmwt@yahoo.com

(Matt's e-mail address has changed!)

*Chapter  
Presidents & Advisors-*

*Make sure you share the  
newsletter with the rest  
of your officers and the  
entire Chapter!*

---

*Don't see your chapter represented  
here? That's because you didn't  
submit anything! The deadline for  
submissions for the next newsletter  
will be **November 11th!** I'm always  
looking for ideas for articles, too!*

---

**HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO ZETA DELTA at  
MIAMI UNIVERSITY**

At the Region 5 Conference, Zeta Delta was presented with the region's 1<sup>st</sup> ever Chapter of Excellence award; one of only 5 awards given in the nation this year! The award was presented by National President Fred Heismeyer and Region 5 Director Adam Bolain, and accepted by the Brothers present at the conference. Great job Miami!