

# THETA DATA

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI OF OHIO THETA ♦ SIGMA PHI EPSILON



FALL 2014



## OHIO THETA CHAPTER HOUSE BEGINNING TO TAKE SHAPE

*Expansion Underway, Your Gift Needed Now More Than Ever*

Construction is well underway at Ohio Theta! It was a busy summer for Ohio Theta Chapter as much work was completed on the chapter house renovations. The stairways were rebuilt, second and third floor bathrooms were completely renovated, and the chimney stack was removed allowing the actives to successfully move in to the renovated portion of the house. As you can see from the photos, the expansion portion of our project is really starting to take shape — the slab is complete, the elevator shaft is complete, two stories have their floors and exterior framed up.

In the coming weeks, construction will continue with the following projects:

- Masonry veneer
- Siding on upper floors
- Insulating walls and attic
- Completing drywall
- Finishings-paint, flooring, electric outlets, plumbing fixtures

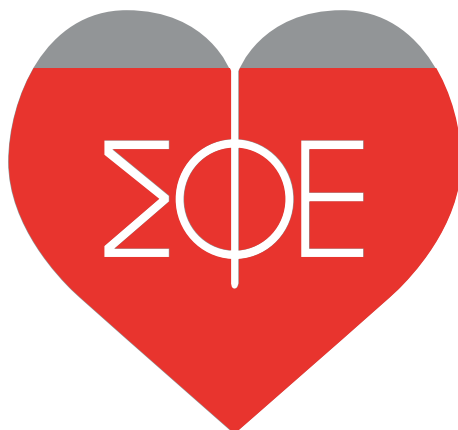
To see our vision of the new Ohio Theta chapter house finally taking shape is exciting, and it is a tangible symbol of the hard work and effort our campaign volunteers have invested in this endeavor. However, our project cannot be complete until we raise enough funds to check all of these items off of our list. To date, we have raised \$1,203,340.

With \$196,660 left to reach our fundraising goal, I ask that if you have not contributed, to fill out the enclosed pledge form and return your commitment today, or make a gift online by visiting [www.ucsigep.org](http://www.ucsigep.org). **You may not realize it, but your gifts are more than an investment in our physical structure; they are an investment in the young men of Ohio Theta Chapter and the University of Cincinnati.** The dividends show themselves as those students, young SigEp men, who graduate and are better citizens as a result of their Ohio Theta experience. They go on to live honestly and honorably, creating a better society in which our children and grandchildren will live.

I hope you have realized just what an impact your gifts have. So please, do not delay. We need your support to ensure our project is completed. If you have already contributed, please consider doubling your commitment or adding a year to your pledge schedule. **If you have not contributed, now is the time!** As you can see, this project *is* happening and we need the support of every brother to achieve success. Please use the enclosed pledge form to return your gift today.

Fraternally,  
**Phil Shepardson '68**  
(513) 231-1513  
[pshpardson@beckman-weil.com](mailto:pshpardson@beckman-weil.com)

**Dan Komnenovich '74**  
(214) 458-4599  
[dkom9151@me.com](mailto:dkom9151@me.com)



- 1.4 Million
- 1.3 M
- 1.2 M
- 1.1 M
- 1 Million
- 900 K
- 800 K
- 700 K
- 600 K
- 500 K
- 400 K
- 300 K
- 200 K
- 100 K
- 0



# \$1,203,340 COMMITTED TO \$1.4 MILLION FUNDRAISING GOAL

## Thank You, Loyal Alumni, for Contributing to the Honoring Our Past, Building Our Future Campaign

Our loyal brothers and friends have shown their generosity by donating \$1,203,340 to the *Honoring Our Past, Building Our Future* campaign. These gifts positively impact Ohio Theta's long-term health and future, and our undergraduate brothers truly appreciate your generous giving. All donors contributing a minimum of \$2,500 will be recognized on a plaque prominently displayed in the renovated chapter house. Your

interest and involvement make a real impact on Sigma Phi Epsilon at the University of Cincinnati.

If an error has been made in recording your gift, or your name has been mistakenly omitted or listed improperly, we sincerely apologize. Please advise our campaign coordinator at (785) 843-1661 so that we may make a correction. Thank you, loyal alumni!

### Golden Heart (\$100,000 and above)

- Mel Haas '62
- In memory of Tom Bullock '62, Don Clemmons '62, Bill Clifton '62, Tom Critzer '62, Al Harmann '62, Bill Hedger '62, Ralph Krisher '62, Bill Marshall '62, Tom Whaley '62, and Tim Woozley '62
- Dan P. Komnenovich '74
- In memory of David Bennett '74, Donald Hoback '77, Larry Kuzma '73, and Richard Mulvihill '72

- Donald F. Fatica '73
- William R. Vadakin '94
- In memory of Eric D. Eshlemen '94

### Ohio Theta (\$10,000 to \$24,999)

- Allen Bumpus '58
- Robert E. Buerger '67
- Dennis R. Reigle '67
- Lawrence Damron '68
- Bud Robeson '68
- In memory of James F. Robeson '59
- W. Philip Shepardson '68
- Frank W. Nutter '69
- Timothy L. Timmel '70
- R. Jeffrey Day '71
- John A. Abraham '77
- Herbert H. Bullock '78
- Jon LaRue, Ph.D. '79

### Founder's Legacy (\$50,000 to \$99,999)

- Ohio Theta
- Undergraduate Chapter
- Maris Kuga '63
- Richard Mullen '65
- In memory of Al Harmann '62 and Bill Hedges '62

- In memory of Chris Stires '79
- Kelly Conway '82
- Samir Patel '91
- Roger Stateczny '92
- Luke Gromen '99
- Maura and John W. Smith '00
- James Bokach '02
- Michael A. Del Favero '03
- Kelly and Joe Haverkamp '03
- Ryan Hayes '05
- Justin Shafer '05

### Sword & the Star Society (\$25,000 to \$49,999)

- Al Harmann '62
- James A. Jones '63
- Paul L. Morris '64
- Scott F. Partridge '69
- In honor of the Spring 1965 Pledge Class

### Brotherly Love (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

- Anonymous
- Ely L. Hill '49
- W. Benjamin Evans '53
- Donald E. Kindle '55
- Russ Overgard '58
- Glenn B. Cooper '62
- In honor of the Class of 1962
- Hal C. McGlathery '62
- In memory of Al Harmann '62 and Bill Hedger '62
- James T. Teller '62
- Lou Thaman '62
- Dwight L. Moody '63

- Lynn M. Barber '65
- James Wells '65
- Mark S. Inzetta '77
- Clint Dorger '79
- Gary Lessis '83
- Greg Miles '84
- David Chris '94
- Craig Monnin '94
- Kevin Broch '95
- Joffre Moine '96
- C. Gregory McIntyre '97
- Ryan Rybolt '97
- Kevin T. Smith '98
- James Atkins '99
- Reineiro L. Medina III '99
- Judge Brothers Family Gift
- Joe Judge '00
- Shaun T. Simpson '00
- Robert Coppola '01
- Michael Mills '04
- Sean C. Cosgrove '05
- Steven A. Fingerman '05
- Lucas Pixley '05
- Gregory Cook '06
- David J. Wenzel '06
- Michael Wolff '06
- Robert Haverkamp '08
- Hiram B. Wooton '08
- Zachary Bryson '09
- Mark A. Kroeger '11
- Ric Sweeney '11
- Joseph C. Blizzard '14
- Sean Buchanan '15
- Robbie Falick '16

### Diligence (\$2,500 to \$4,999)

- Anonymous
- Harold W. Thomas '53
- Rudy Bredenbeck '54
- R. Eric Weise '54
- In memory of Doug Varner '71
- Robert Bourquein '58
- Richard Brannaman '59
- Robert Stewart '59
- In memory of Borny '59
- In honor of the Pledge Class of 1959
- William A. Cabell '60
- Tom Miller '61
- Steve Austin '62
- Robert H. Heldman '62
- Don Ochsner '62
- David L. Allen '63
- In memory of Tom Bullock '62 and Terry Johnson '65
- James R. Charles '64
- Sean Hoyt '64
- In honor of the Pledge Class of '60
- Martin B. Popp, M.D. '64
- Richard A. Durham '65
- In memory of Tony Germani '64
- In honor of Bob Peterson '64
- Terry L. Johnson '65
- In memory of Tony Germani '64 and Bob Peterson '64
- William Henry '67
- James W. Maurer '67
- John A. Ventura '68
- Susan Moran and Stephen Brubaker '69
- In memory of Song Circles with Theta Phi Alpha
- Eleanor and Thomas E. Vick '69
- Jim Abend '73
- In memory of Doug Varner '71
- Steven H. Campbell '73
- Michael L. Heisel '73
- In memory of Larry Kuzma '73
- Chris Schneider '83
- Matthew P. Blecke '95
- In honor of William and Carol Blecke
- Robert A. Cross '95
- Joel Eppley '98
- Brian Haemmerle '98
- Jason Bowers '00
- Micah Schehl '00
- Matthew Batchler '01
- Cassie and Matt Kingan '02
- James Tischler '03
- Anthony K. Tran '03
- Mason Ward '06
- Timothy Quackenbush '08
- Clinton Ciani '12

- Benjamin Garner '12
- Chris Hais '12
- Thomas E. Meyer '12
- Kurt Modlich '12
- Daniel Niergarth '12
- Kyle Sutton '12
- Matthew Meriweather '13
- Brendan Phillips '13
- Charles Wiederhold '13
- Jared Yates '13
- Nathan Bodenschatz '14
- Seth Brooks '13
- James Brutz '14
- Benjamin Kessler '14
- Jonathan Ruther '14
- William Schlich '14
- Andrew Vehr '14
- Andrew M. Woods '14
- James Acosta '15
- Matthew C. Brown '15
- Joseph Merrick '15
- Brandon Trame '15
- Kevin Vehr '16

### Virtue (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

- The Fesenmeier Family
- In memory of John J. Fesenmeier '59
- Harold Campbell '54
- Sandra Hoover
- In memory of George H. Hoover '54
- George M. McIlveen '56
- In memory of John Bammerlin '61, Jim Feltnr '56, the Class of 1956, and John Bammerlin '61
- Alan M. Hardy '57
- John Eckhart '59
- In memory of John Fesenmeier '59
- Kent Friel '59
- Babe and Jim Reger '59
- Richard F. Roehr '59
- V. Ronald Fisk '58
- In memory of Dr. Tami Fisk
- Bruce N. Blackburn '61
- Ronald C. Miller '61

Add your name to this list by returning the enclosed pledge form or visiting [ucsigep.org](http://ucsigep.org).



# JOHN A. ABRAHAM '77 PAYS IT FORWARD

**J**ohn A. Abraham '77 was looking for a chapter that was different when he came to the University of Cincinnati. He had many high school classmates who were pledging other fraternities, but he wanted to be surrounded by men who sought to be more than the stereotypical, entitled fraternity. After Ohio Theta was recommended to him by Queen of Hearts Marcia Ripley, John believed the balanced men of Sigma Phi Epsilon were the best fit for him.



The years that John spent as an undergraduate were invaluable to his development as a student and, eventually, a professional college graduate. He learned time management skills and the importance of recruiting driven individuals to improve the life of the chapter. He has chosen to give back to the chapter since 1981 when he began serving as the AVC president and now serves on the capital campaign board. He hopes to see more involvement from a broader spectrum of alumni.

"We are not an old chapter, nor do we have a deep alumni base. The bulk of our manpower numbers come from the late '80s and onward into the growth of the '90s and now 2000s. Our campaign would benefit from a broader base of participation of donors. We have never asked for much from alumni while building a superior SigEp chapter on the national stage, as evidenced by the string of Gold Buchannan Cups. Now is the time for the uncommitted to step into the gap and lend a hand. This is no small task and we do need financial, brotherly love from so many alumni currently on the sidelines."

Besides the rewarding experience of seeing the chapter become a competitive force on campus, through his involvement in serving Ohio Theta John has been able to connect with alumni of all ages and eras. "**Dan Komnenovich '74, Don Fatica '73, Phil Shepardson '68, and Mel Haas '62** have all been so supportive and are a real hoot since I can still say they are older than me. I will be on a Bearcat football roadtrip to the SMU game to see Dan, as well as **Joe Neky '77** this season! But the 'younger' crowd like **Rey Medina '99, Gary Lessis '83, Joe Haverkamp '04, Judd Weis '85, Paul Hart '08, and Joff Moine '96** see this as their vision coming true. Ohio Theta stands on the foundation these brothers built and they are ALL smiling right now."

John owns Atlas Vac Machine, which designs and manufactures medical device sterile packaging capital equipment with domestic and international sales. He enjoys international travel with his family and collects vintage cars. He and his wife, Julie, and their three children: Meggie, Katie, and Robert, live in Cincinnati.

John encourages other alumni to join him and find a way to give back to Ohio Theta, big or small. Feel free to reconnect with him or contact him to get involved with the campaign, undergraduate chapter, or how to donate. E-mail: [jabraham@fuse.net](mailto:jabraham@fuse.net)



## Campaign Status At-a-Glance

As of October 7, 2014

\$1.4 Million Goal

\$1,203,340 Raised

236 Contributors

1,060 Mailable Alumni

- Jim Bowman '52
- Paul Siegel '52
- W. Donald Lieder '53
- John Driver '55
- William R. Heckmann '55
- Raymond W. Higgins '58
- James C. Schreckengost '58
- Gerald L. Shawhan '58
- Fred Himes '59
  - In honor of the Class of 1959
- Jack Schoenebaum '59
- R. A. Anstaett '60
- Sheldon Birkhold '60
- Ronald A. Straka '61
  - In memory of John Bammerilin '61
- Charles W. Connell, Ph.D. '62
  - In memory of Al Harmann '62
- Douglas G. Hughes '62
  - In honor of the Class of '62
- William K. Kramer '62
  - In memory of Pat McCleary '63
- Richard H. Lippert '62
- Edward Ely '63
  - In memory of Jay Nelson '63
- Stanton A. Schultz '63
- Robert J. Feltz '64
- John E. McKibben '64
- Gerard R. Chuck '65
- William H. Faul '65
  - In memory of Henry J. Faul, M.D., Illinois Alpha
- Fred Butler '66
- Thomas R. Scheckelhoff '67
- Ronald Wickert '67
- E. David Crawford, M.D. '69
- James L. Bergman, M.D. '70
- John Cutshaw '73
  - In memory of Doug Varner '71
- John W. Cutshaw '73
  - In memory of Doug Varner '71
- Douglas J. Meister '74
  - In memory of Doug Varner '70
- John C. Knab '75
- Steven Timmel '76
- Don Duba '79
- Kevin C. Horton '79
- Marc Reynolds '80
- Joe Fishback '82
- Tom Haas '89
- Ed Jones, NY Eta '96
- Jacob Espel '01
- Derrick Franz '01
- Darren Jauch '05
- Joseph W. Fealy '06
- Philip Burg '07
- Stephen Haverkos '09
- Joshua Henderson '09

- Jesse F. Stock Jr. '61
  - In memory of Roger Hotz '61
- Gary A. Lensch '62
- Rex Levering '62
  - In honor of Stephen Austin '62
- Robert Novak '62
- William R. Starr '62
- James L. Barrett '63
- Robert A. Fessler '63
  - In honor of Barney Munger
- William P. Freudenberger '63
- George Scheuernstuhl '63
- David W. Beede '64
- Richard L. Amos '67
- Robert William Meredith '67
- Jerry Ose '67
- Duane A. Dammeyer '69
- Duane Dammeyer '69
- Thom Gerdes '70
- Bob Mecum '70
  - In honor of Phil Shepardson '68
- Dennis O'Connor '73
- David T. Stevenson '77
- Jon F. Bradford '81
- Daniel Lysaght '82
- Lee Duncan '83
- Gary Moscarino '86
- Jeffrey Bauer '88
- Nicholas Loukas '00
- Brian Steele '00
- Dean G. Lutton '01
- David Yale '02
- Matt Berger '09
- Grant Juncker '13
- Aaron Leader '13
- Michael Bradford '14
- Brandon Laffin '14
- Devin Leahy '14
- Weston Ott '15

- 1949 Society (Up to \$999)**
- Arthur R. Ehrmschwender '48
- Henry Wade '51
- James Benner '52

## SAVE THE DATE

**Alumni Beer Tasting and Tour • Rheingeist Brewery • November 8**  
Brewery Tour at 1 p.m.  
Tasting Room at 3 p.m.

Contact **Paul Hart '08** at [hart.paul@gmail.com](mailto:hart.paul@gmail.com) for more information.

**Queen of Hearts • February 7, 2015**

Contact **Paul Hart '08** at [hart.paul@gmail.com](mailto:hart.paul@gmail.com) for more information.

**Grand Opening Celebration Weekend • May 15-16, 2015**

Mark your calendars, you don't want to miss this historic celebration!

# Ohio Theta Exceeds Expectations

*Continuing Excellence in Academics, Recruitment, and Campus Life*

The summer semester for the Ohio Theta Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon has been one to remember. Although the chapter house renovation is only halfway complete, twenty of our active brothers moved back into the newly renovated section in August, and with the rest of our returning 103-man chapter, have begun to set the stage for another successful year.

## UNDERGRADUATES EARN SECOND HIGHEST GPA

Last spring, Ohio Theta earned a 3.30 GPA, which was the second highest GPA for all IFC fraternities. Our new members earned the highest new member class GPA with a 3.42. We are proud of our accomplishments and are thankful for the guidance from Vice President of Development **James Acosta '15**. Under his leadership, we hope to achieve the top spot this fall.

Beginning this next spring, Faculty Fellow Dr. Bauer will be teaching macroeconomics in the newly renovated chapter room exclusively to Ohio Theta members. We are thankful for this opportunity and look forward to having more private classes for our members.

## MAKING PHILANTHROPY A PRIORITY

The SigEp Stromboli sale that was held September 30, raised \$718 and all of the proceeds are going toward our December mission trip to Georgia to work with the Fuller Center for one week to remodel a house. Our biggest philanthropy, FlyAway, will be held on Sigma Sigma Commons on October 25. This concert, sand volleyball and cornhole tournament will raise money for TAKE, a women's defense organization.

## RECRUITING BALANCED MEN

The Balanced Man Scholarship Program continues to be the cornerstone of our recruiting efforts. This year we awarded 12 scholarships to incoming freshmen that excelled as leaders, scholars, athletes, and gentleman. This summer we conducted our annual parents weekend, in home interviews, various finalist dinners, and, of course, our Scholarship Banquet. Amazingly, we had 22 new members before formal recruitment (rush week) even started! Thanks to the efforts of Vice President of Recruitment **Ryan Clem '17**, Ohio Theta recruited total of 49 men during recruitment this fall and the chapter is excited to

# THETA DATA



## Sigma Phi Epsilon

### Ohio Theta

P.O. Box 428561  
Cincinnati, OH 45242-8561

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welcome them to the fraternity. That's right, we are over 150 men strong!

## GETTING INVOLVED ON CAMPUS

Homecoming was on September 20 and we were paired with the women of Kappa Kappa Gamma. This year's theme was Zinzinnati, a play on Oktoberfest. Brothers are also looking forward to intramural sports starting up this week and to continue our success in football and volleyball.

## THANKFUL FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND SUPPORTERS

Alumni, faculty, and volunteers are critical contributors to the chapter, and nowhere is that more clear than our new chapter house renovation and expansion program. Our brothers are beyond excited for expansion to be completed in January.



Fraternally,  
**Logan Brooks '15**  
Chapter President  
brookslt@mail.uc.edu

# WELCOME, FALL 2014 NEW MEMBERS

- |                   |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Max Agranoff      | Jeff Kroeger*          |
| Nathaniel Allen   | Evan Lah               |
| Braden Baldwin    | Jack Lang              |
| Reid Becker       | Matthew Lizik          |
| Ethan Bishop      | Hadis Palic            |
| Kenny Blount      | Trenton Pfister        |
| Ryan Bohenek      | Logan Porter           |
| Cooper Brown      | Jonathan Quantz        |
| Nathaniel Burke   | Kyle Rickett           |
| Bobby Buse        | Tristian Rothenbeucher |
| Nick Cacodcar     | Nolan Sablak*          |
| Michael Caldwell* | Josh Schaefer          |
| Nick Childs       | Alex Scherzinger       |
| Alex Chun         | Grant Slovan           |
| Nathan Cook*      | Dillon Staub*          |
| Noah Danes        | Zac Swadner            |
| Donald Edgington  | Alex Tepley            |
| Eric Estenfelder  | Brent Ufkes            |
| Alex Glahn*       | Austin Vick            |
| Zach Green        | Paul Whitaker*         |
| Kyle Hardison     | Andy Wentzel*          |
| Preston Heath     | Dave Werwinski         |
| Bennett Herbert   | Brian Wilson*          |
| Evan Hill         |                        |
| Michael Irvine    | *Legacy                |
| Jason Kohorst     |                        |



Logan Brooks '15, Sam Schroeder '17, Erik Angus '17, Alex Shelton '18, Garrett Miller '17, Jordan Bryant '17, Ryan Clem '17, Jeff Back '18, and Mark Rapien '16 at the groundbreaking event in June.