



Theta Data



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Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity at the University of Cincinnati

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CHAPTER STRIVES FOR SUCCESS

Although the 2002-03 academic year has concluded and remains only as a memory, Ohio Theta Chapter finished the year in proper form through a multitude of events and accomplishments. This spring, the chapter was involved in a variety of service projects that included assisting local Boy Scouts deliver 22,000 bags of mulch, helping the Cincinnati Reds prepare for opening day and maintaining the community through both the Adopt-A-Block and Keep Cincinnati Beautiful initiatives. In addition, Brother Dan Johnston '04 and a crew of loyal brothers continued the work of Ohio Theta alumnus Jim Bokach '02 by leading the Cincinnati Community Outreach, a service program that unites hundreds of campus volunteers with different organizations in the Cincinnati area.

The men of the chapter demonstrated a strong showing in this year's Greek Week festivities by placing second for the third consecutive year. Despite a slow start, the chapter rallied together and placed in many events including the Lip Sync, the God and Goddess, Belly Flop and the Greek Games. Ohio Theta also placed second in the overall philanthropy award by donating more than \$1,000 to the March of Dimes, as well as giving hundreds of clothing items to the Salvation Army.

In accordance with Mothers Day, the chapter hosted its annual Parents Weekend festivities. The event was a success under the direction of Brother Len Bradley '04. Retired UC Registrar Lynn Barber '64 delivered a wonderful speech to all in attendance and was very grateful to receive

the first Lynn Barber Chapter Involvement Award for his dedication to the chapter.

At the Greek Awards Banquet held at the Westin Hotel downtown, the chapter received many awards for its efforts in maintaining a superb organization. The Order of Omega awarded Ohio Theta with its Scholarship, Campus Relations and Membership Development awards. They also recognized Brother Tyler Kleck '05 as the Greek Athlete of the Year. Ohio Theta swept the Greek Affairs Council Awards by taking home both the Greek Spirit Award and the Social Development Award! These accolades are a testament to the hard work by the undergraduates to make Sig Ep the best fraternity at UC!

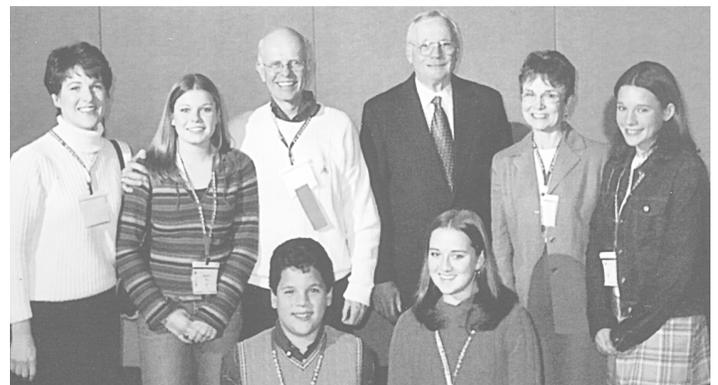
Ohio Theta is eagerly waiting to
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Alumnus, Family Members Meet Neil Armstrong

James A. Reger '59 wrote to us in January, "*Babe and I were invited to meet with astronaut Neil Armstrong (see photo), the first man to walk on the moon, at the fourth annual Master Mind Summit in Las Vegas. The summit was sponsored by Providence Systems, Inc. of San Diego, a real estate coaching company that emphasizes family and personal growth as well as business development.*

"Neil Armstrong is a very private person and seldom appears at such public functions. Of the 5,000 attendees at the meeting, Babe and I, residents of Bellingham, were one of only two invitees to meet with Armstrong. Our daughter, Lisa Acosta of Palm Desert, CA, with her two children and our son Eric's two daughters of Terre Haute, IN, also met with Armstrong.

"Why were we able to meet with Armstrong? One, because I was an instrumentation engineer who worked on the moon suit backpack and Lunar Module; two, because Armstrong, after his walk on the moon, was an aerospace professor at the University of Cincinnati, where Babe and I were president and vice president of



Jim and Babe and their daughter, Lisa, and four of their grandchildren with Neil Armstrong

our senior class; and three, because we were all Ohio natives, with Babe from Cincinnati and me from Dayton, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary next year as the Birthplace of Aviation.

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Young Alumni Association Update

When you think back to your days at Ohio Theta, what memories come to mind—the Homecomings, formals, or perhaps the brotherhood? Those experiences made an impact on your life, and Ohio Theta is now asking you to make an impact on the next generation of Sig Ep.

You may remember seeing an article in the Spring 2003 issue of *Theta Data* about the Young Alumni Association that Ohio Theta is trying to form. The time has come, and we need your help! The mission and spirit of YAA is to keep recent alumni in touch with each other and the Ohio Theta undergraduates.

Additionally, the organization will serve several other purposes. It will be a planning group for events geared directly toward alumni and will provide enhanced and continued networking opportunities. YAA will also indirectly serve as a liaison between

the chapter's older alumni and the undergraduate membership.

As Ohio Theta takes strides to begin strengthening the bonds of alumni relations, it is important to note that the chapter has already implemented events geared toward our graduated, but not forgotten, brothers. The second annual Founders Day Dinner will take place on November 1. Although still in the initial phases of planning, we enthusiastically welcome all alumni to join the event. Other plans are in the works, such as alumni involvement in the Balanced Man Scholarship Banquet and recruitment events as well as stronger Homecoming events.

If you would like to help with the forming of YAA, please contact me via e-mail at nguyen-hieu@lycos.com, through the Ohio Theta website, www.ohiotheta.org, or call the new AOD phone line at (513) 221-1243.

The chapter is asking for your help to make an impact and is open to all suggestions to get the organization off to a strong start.

*Fraternally,
AOD Hieu Nguyen*

Golden Heart Member Passes Away

Dr. Garland Parker '37, who made substantial contributions to Ohio Theta Chapter, passed away on February 15, 2003. Following an extensive education that included stops at Southeast Missouri State, Wisconsin and Tulane universities, the beloved professor ultimately landed at UC, where his long career would touch the lives of many.

In addition to his university duties, Dr. Parker served as the faculty advisor to the men of Ohio Theta. He was well liked by all in the chapter and served as an inspirational role model to many.

While serving as the university registrar, he took a young Lynn Barber (who would eventually succeed him) under his wing. (Lynn retired this past February.) In 1980, Dr. Parker retired as executive director and vice provost for admissions and records. In 1993, Dr. Parker was a worthy recipient of The Order of the Golden Heart, the fraternity's highest honor.

Some alumni have already honored his memory by contributing to "The Centennial/Balanced Man Fund" that was established two years ago. If you would like to make a contribution, please send them to The Ohio Theta Chapter Sigma Phi Epsilon Educational Foundation, Attn: Chuck White, 310 South Blvd., P.O. Box 1901, Richmond, VA 23218-1901.

All contributions are fully tax deductible and greatly appreciated. Your gift will be acknowledged to Dr. Parker's family.

CHAPTER STRIVES FOR SUCCESS

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attend the 48th Grand Chapter Conclave this year in San Antonio! I will serve as the chapter delegate and past President Joseph Haverkamp '04 will be in attendance as the alternate. We look forward to joining both our local and national brothers to celebrate being a part of our unique fraternity. After assembling a solid application that highlights our efforts the past two years, we're crossing our fingers that we'll be able to leave Texas with our eighth consecutive Buchanan Cup.

Now is the time for the chapter to look to the future. Work has already begun on planning one of the best fall seasons Ohio Theta has seen in years. The leadership of the chapter is taking great strides to exceed expectations of the past in order to achieve new heights for the future. Members have been involved in recruitment seminars and leadership conferences that should give the chapter the competitive edge it needs.

I personally had the unique opportunity to attend the Undergraduate

Interfraternity Institute, sponsored by the North American Interfraternity Conference. The intense, five-day seminar focused on values-based leadership in order to inspire all members to think "outside of the box" to succeed. I believe that many ideas gained from this, the Ruck Leadership Institute and the Balanced Man Quest to Greece will offer new insight for a chapter ready to excel at the next level.

As the fall quickly approaches, remember that the red door is always there to welcome you back to Ohio Theta. Homecoming is set for October 25, and we have a full calendar of events that we encourage all alumni to attend. Check out www.ohiotheta.org for a complete schedule. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact me via e-mail at hayesrc@hotmail.com. In addition to the chapter line, I can always be reached at (513) 236-8302.

*Fraternally,
President Ryan Hayes*

House Corp. Makes Improvements

During the summer of 2003, the investments in the property were significant and brought us to the end of several planned improvements prior to beginning our next large project. The last section of new windows was recently installed in the library, living room, back stairwell, second bath and a remaining bedroom or two. This completes the long-term project to replace all windows with thermal pane units which significantly insulates the house and brings the exterior back to its original antique beige window trim. All of these windows were paid for out of current cash flow.

The other large project, installing fire sprinklers, has been completed and is ready for certification. This is a critical capital upgrade to the Ohio Theta property, so we can not only remain competitive with the university housing, but mitigate risk.

Although our property is not under mandate to have fire sprinklers, installing them is the correct decision in the interest of the safety of the actives living there. If we are to be a first class property, systems such as these must be included in our planning. The \$37,000 cost of this property improvement was funded by your savings in the Chapter Investment Fund at Sig Ep Headquarters. We still have lots of interior trim work to complete in the next two years to improve various ceilings and hallways where the sprinklers were installed.

In addition to the normal wear and tear repairs and small projects, box gutter and soffit repairs are the last large projects remaining on our original list.

As always, your support of the various scholarships and other Ohio Theta funds administered by the Educational Foundation is greatly appreciated and

enables the chapter to better support chapter operations and individual members. The C. Maynard Turner Library continues to be a fine resource supported by your designated contributions to the Added Dimensions Fund for Ohio Theta's Centennial Fund Campaign. Other designated funds for your consideration are George McIlveen Sr., Don Hoback and James Feltner and the Balanced Man Scholarship. Please consult the National Sig Ep website, www.sigep.org, for the Educational Foundation contact information and designate your gift as you deem appropriate.

Be sure to stop by the house during the University of Cincinnati fall football season as well as Homecoming to check out the upgrades to your facility.

*Ohio Theta House Corporation
President John Abraham*

Ohio Theta Alumni Make Golf Outing a Success

The 14th annual Ohio Theta Alumni Golf Outing was held Saturday, May 31, at Pebble Creek golf course. This year's event, again under the direction of Greg Miles, featured 36 golfers, including three undergraduates and a foursome of alumni from the University of Dayton. In addition to a stellar round of golf, the brothers shared in good food and drinks, as well as a brand of fun that only Ohio Thetas can have.

This year's winning foursome of Ron Wickert '67, Erik Wickert, Jim Kindsvatter '66 and John Abraham posted a score of 10 under par. Two

teams finished at 7 under par to come in second place. While John reveled in the moment, those in attendance knew the victory was most likely due to the play of the other three! Erik also captured the longest drive

awards on both the 12th and 15th holes.

Thanks to everyone who made this year's event a success. We hope to see even more alumni return for next year's event!

Brothers Attend Ruck Institute

Last spring, two of Ohio Theta's undergraduate brothers were selected by Sigma Phi Epsilon Headquarters to attend the prestigious Ruck Leadership Institute. Current VP Recruitment Sean Cosgrove and VP Brotherhood Development James Landers were two of 120 honored with this opportunity.

The Ruck Leadership Institute, named after past Grand President Frank J. Ruck, is a four-day, high-intensity leadership development experience. Undergraduates from across the nation gather at the University of Richmond, site of the founding of our fraternity. Taking place at the Jepson School of Leadership Studies, this advanced program focused on "Teaching the Few to Impact the

Many!" Distinguished Sig Ep alumni, along with the current Headquarters staff, hosted the event during the weekend of July 10-13.

Sean and James took much from this experience, which they hope reflects upon the upcoming performance of recruitment and brotherhood development, along with numerous other areas of Ohio Theta. New and innovative ways of motivating the chapter members were primarily the focus of the demanding weekend. As this opportunity was very selective, Headquarters must have seen something special in these brothers.

Ohio Theta is looking strongly for these two to lead the chapter into what
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The winners of our 2002 Golf Outing proudly display their trophies.

Ohio Theta Chapter Alumni News



Dick and LaVerne with Bonnie

Richard D. Hopper (Miami University '53), who retired as a teacher, coach and counselor, owns Hopper's Painting Service. He and his wife, LaVerne (see photo), a teacher and UC alumna, have three grown children, Sandra, Bruce and Dale.

MEET NEIL ARMSTRONG

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"Armstrong took fabric and pieces of propeller from the original Wright brothers airplane for his moon visit and returned it to the world renowned Air Force Museum at Dayton's Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

"Babe (AXΩ) is the organizer of the class of '59's yearly reunions. The most recent one was at our Gatlinburg Sig Ep house (Castle on the Green), where J.C. Strayer '59 brought down the house with his dancing demonstration of the tackiest souvenir in Gatlinburg (a flashing belly button light, which everybody was trying to get in the gift exchange). The Fesenmeiers vowed to use it on their private boat dock in Alabama.

"Reservations are now being accepted for our second excursion to Cancun in October; Fred Himes is already in Salty Dog training."

Brothers can write to Jim at 115 Twin Brook, Bellingham, MA 02019.

Dick tells brothers, "I won the State of Ohio Senior Olympics in 2000 in the 1500 meter speed walking."

Brothers can catch up with "Hop" at 2211 Spencer Ln., Middletown, OH 45042 or via e-mail at dlhopper@erinet.com.

Paul E. Ehrnschwender '52 sent us this letter with brothers Dick Bosse '50 and Art Ehrnschwender '48, "Time marches on, but the reunion on June 21 provided for an afternoon of conversation, reminiscing, excellent food and a great place to meet—a time enjoyed by the 23 who attended.

"Interest was expressed in getting together again in two years, possibly an October event; this we will certainly pursue. We again thank all for making this reunion a day to remember." Arrange your own get-together with Paul at 8678 Sturbridge Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45236 or via e-mail at paulandflo@earthlink.net.

William R. Sample '54 wrote to us in December, "I am still alive and so is my spouse (Betty). We celebrated

our 50th wedding anniversary in August 2001."

Bill, who is retired, is a board member of Camerata Singers and a volunteer designer for the United Way. He and Betty (AΔΠ), who is also retired, can be found at 341 Park Ln., Lake Bluff, IL 60044. He can also be reached via wsample@ameritech.net.

ATTEND RUCK INSTITUTE

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looks to be its best fall quarter in years.

If you would like to hear more about this unique experience, feel free to contact Sean Cosgrove via e-mail at cosgrovesc@yahoo.com or James Landers via nedcats@hotmail.com.

Theta Data is published by the men of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity at the University of Cincinnati for members and friends.

Alumni news, photos and change of address notices should be sent to Ohio Theta of Sigma Phi Epsilon, c/o Newsletter Program Headquarters, P.O. Box 14432, Columbus, OH 43214-0432.

Balanced Man in Full Swing

The Balanced Man Scholarship is once again going strong at Ohio Theta. Brother Dan Johnston '04 and his committee have worked hard to ensure that this year's competition will exceed those of years past. This summer, 51 finalists will be interviewed across the country from Wisconsin to Michigan to every corner of Ohio. At stake will be one quarter's in-state tuition for the grand prize (totaling over \$2,000) and several smaller book scholarships.

This year's BMS banquet will be held at the Kingsgate Conference Center on September 19, 2003, for the finalists and their parents. Alumni are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Ohio Theta Executive Council

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