



# Theta Data



Published by Ohio Theta Chapter of  
Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity at the University of Cincinnati

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FALL 2006

## ARE YOU COMING TO HOMECOMING?

### *Homecoming 2006*

Several Sig Ep events are scheduled for this year's Homecoming, including the annual breakfast and open house at 9 a.m. and an alumni banquet after the football game at 5 p.m. The class of 1959 and the classes from 1964-70 are planning reunions during this weekend; please contact the chapter to find out more information about these events.

To receive more information on the university's Homecoming plans, visit them on the web at <http://homecoming.uc.edu>, and to find out more information on the chapter's alumni events, visit Ohio Theta on the web at <http://ohiothetaalumni.org>.

If you have any questions or want to RSVP for the Sig Ep alumni events, please contact Dave Wenzel via e-mail at [davidj.wenzel@gmail.com](mailto:davidj.wenzel@gmail.com) or by phone at (513) 252-7061.

### *1964-70 'Blast from the Past' Alumni Reunion*

Over 30 alumni from this era are planning on attending the "Blast from the Past" reunion—are you one of them? To find out more information on the '64-'70 reunion, please contact John Ventura '68 via e-mail at [jventura@msn.com](mailto:jventura@msn.com) or by phone at (619) 296-6963.

### *Alumni Banquet*

A special alumni banquet is planned for October 28, 2006, at 5 p.m., after the Bearcats beat Syracuse in the Homecoming football game. The dinner is being held at The Madison in Covington, KY, to honor several alumni and to celebrate the founding of our fraternity 105 years ago. There are over 60 guests of the fraternity planning to attend the dinner, so contact your classmates and mark your calendars.

The cost is \$30 per person and includes a garlic chicken and blackened salmon dinner with beer, wine and champagne included. The dress code will be come as you are after the football game.

To RSVP for the event, please mail a check to Sigma Phi Epsilon, 321 Joselin Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45220. Please contact Dave Wenzel via e-mail at [davidj.wenzel@gmail.com](mailto:davidj.wenzel@gmail.com) or by phone at (513) 252-7061 and let him know if you plan to attend the Homecoming events.

### *Homecoming Events Schedule*

9 a.m. .... Breakfast and open house  
at the chapter house  
10/10:30 a.m. .... Homecoming parade  
on Clifton Ave.  
Noon ..... Bearcats play Syracuse  
5 p.m. .... Alumni Banquet at  
The Madison, Covington, KY

## *Ohio Theta President Reflects on Success in 2006*

Ohio Theta has enjoyed much success in the last six months. In January, the newly elected Executive Board asked the chapter to embrace paradigm shifts that would lead to bigger and better things for Ohio Theta. With an added emphasis placed on academics, the chapter's GPA jumped 0.14 points from the fall of 2005 to the winter of 2006; winter and spring GPA's were 3.16 and 3.19 respectively.

To further exemplify Ohio Theta's commitment to academic excellence, we were honored in February at our Carlson Leadership Academy in Pittsburgh, PA. There we received the Phi Beta Kappa Wheelhouse Award for having a chapter GPA over 3.15 for  
*(Continued on page 2)*



**Alumni and undergraduates display the numerous awards they received at this year's Carlson Leadership Academy (see page 3 for complete list).**

# Alumni Gather for 50th Reunion

Ohio Theta alumni from the early to mid-1950s met on May 18, 2006, to reminisce about their time spent at the university and the halls of ΣΦΕ.

In total, 12 Sig Eps and spouses got together at The Mariemont Inn for dinner and a mini-reunion before the University of Cincinnati's Golden Bearcat Reunion.

Congratulations to the alumni and several of their wives who have been Bearcats for the past 50 years! Several alumni had not seen each other in over 30 years, but instantly rekindled the friendship they created during their time in the chapter.

*Fraternally,*  
**George McIlveen '56**

*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, PO Box 14432, Columbus, OH 43214-0432.



Ohio Theta alumni at a recent 50th reunion include Charles Tadge '54, Don Kindle '55, Don Lieder '53, Ron Griffith '54, George McIlveen '56, Carl Phelps '56, Ben Evans '53, Rudy Bredenbeck '54, Gene Henninger '56, Stanley "Ollie" Kline '53, Dale Speckman '56 and Bob Bruning '54. Not pictured is Rudy Bredenbeck's wife, Shirley (UC '56).

## PRESIDENT REFLECTS

*(Continued from page 1)*

the 2005-06 school year. To complement this, we also received the Manpower Excellence Award for having the largest chapter on campus (a title we do not anticipate losing for quite some time).

This winter saw the chapter complete over 700 hours of community service for various organizations—the two largest being Crosstown Helpout, where we rehabbed schools in the Cincinnati area, and Night Walk, where we drove University of Cincinnati students around from 8-11 p.m. in the Clifton area to make sure they got to their destinations safely. Our Sound Mind-Sound Body programming began to diversify and consequentially prosper. Chapter discussions about risk management, personal health and diversity awareness became commonplace. Trips to the Cincinnati Art Museum and development retreats further supplemented our expanding breadth of knowledge, and to our satisfaction, the Greek community recog-

nized us as the Chapter of the Quarter for winter 2006.

The chapter carried this momentum into spring quarter, continuing our innovative programming and our commitment to community service. We again dedicated over 700 hours of community service and raised over \$2,000 for Sig Ep's national philanthropy partner, YouthAIDS, with the annual Fly Away concert.

At a recently revamped Order of Omega Awards, we were recognized for our leadership in the Greek community. The new awards system is based on a lengthy application with point values assigned to every aspect of a chapter's operation. We received the Membership Development Award and Chapter Operations Award, both of which require 90 percent of all possible points in each category. From there, we also received the distinction of being a Gold Chapter, which requires 85 percent of all possible points in the entire application. We were one of three chapters to receive this recognition and ranked second place in the Overall Pre-

mier Chapter Award. At this same ceremony, the Greek Alumni Affairs Council (GAAC) gives out two awards for all fraternities. We won both the Membership Development Award as well as the Greek Spirit Award, making it two years in a row that we've swept the GAAC Award. It was a successful night for Ohio Theta.

As it stands, Ohio Theta undergraduates and Alumni and Volunteer Corporation are working hard to improve the chapter's home throughout the summer. Many projects, large and small, are currently under way. We have also started the interview process for our Balanced Man Scholarship that we will be awarding in September, and right now, the chapter is preparing for fall recruitment to ensure Ohio Theta stays atop the fraternities at UC, not only in size, but also in stature.

Thank you for your continued support of Sigma Phi Epsilon and Ohio Theta.

*Fraternally,*  
**President Hiram B. Wooton**

# Alumni Tee Off at 17th Golf Outing

On Saturday, June 3, 2006, 34 alumni gathered at Pebble Creek Golf Course on a picture-perfect day to participate in the 17th annual alumni golf outing. Pictures of the event are posted on the alumni website under the "Archived News" section. Eight more years, and we can call it a classic!

Congratulations to the first place winners—Tim Guffey '92, Chris Berardinis '94, Mike Burch '94 and Mike Molinari '93.

## Winners and Prizes

Second Place: David Burns '95, Joffre Moine '96, Matt Moschel '96 and Allen Grant '93

Third Place: Greg Cook '04, Luke Pixley '05 and Steve Fingerman '05

Hole #3 Closest-to-Pin on Second Shot: Jeff Ewart '95

Hole #6 Closest-to-Pin: Mike Burch '94

Hole #9 Longest Putt: Steve Fingerman '05

Hole #10 Closest-to-Pin Second Shot: Greg Cook '04

Hole #13 Closest-to-Pin: Mike Burch '94

Hole #15 Longest Drive: Tim Guffey '92

Hole #16 Closest-to-Pin: Chris Berardinis '94

Hole #17 Longest Putt: Mark Griesmer '96

Most Experienced Player: Phil Shepardson '68

Longest Distance Traveled Player: Allen Grant '93

First Paid: John Abraham '77



Alumni gather for dinner after a long day on the golf course.

## A Special Thank-you!

Thank you to the following alumni who have helped brothers attend the Ruck Leadership Institute, Leadershape, Carlson Leadership Academy and Grand Chapter Conclave.

George McIlveen '56

Mel Haas '62

Bud Robeson '68

John Abraham '77

Bert Bullock

(Arizona Gamma '78)

Gary Lessis '83

Ken Bartley '86

Dr. Jeff Bauer

(Ohio Pi '88)

John Kolz '91

Corey Liepelt '93

Matt Blecke '95

Jeff Ewart '95

Ron Eng '96

Shaun Simpson '00

Jim Bokach '02

Dirk Franz '01

Sean Cosgrove '05

Thanks again, alumni!

## Check Out Our Website

As you read in the last edition of *Theta Data*, we recently launched an alumni website, which currently has over 400 online members. The website is free, easy to use and has many unique features to track down long-lost brothers or relive the memories you created when you were an undergraduate. Visit the website at <http://ohiothetaalumni.org>; if you don't have login access, please send an e-mail to [lostbrothers@ohiothetaalumni.org](mailto:lostbrothers@ohiothetaalumni.org) with your current contact information, and we will get you the appropriate login information.

## Winter and Spring Awards

CLA - Manpower Excellence Award

CLA - Phi Beta Kappa Wheelhouse

CLA - Frank J. Ruck Interfraternity Leadership Award—Dave Wenzel '06

UC - Chapter of the Quarter for winter 2006

UC - Greek Alumni Affairs Council Greek Spirit Award

UC - Greek Alumni Affairs Council Social Development Program Award

UC - Chapter Excellence Award Gold Chapter

UC - Membership Development Award

UC - Chapter Management Award

UC - Order of Omega Greek Achievement Award—Mason Ward '06

UC - Order of Omega Greek Athlete of the Year—James McEvoy '06

UC - Order of Omega Prof. of the Year—Dr. Berryman-Fink (faculty fellow)

## Recruitment Assistance Needed

Do you know a young man coming to the University of Cincinnati this fall? Alumni recruitment referrals help us continue to recruit the right men and grow our recruitment numbers. By referring your son, grandson or family friend, you will help us continue to be the best in all aspects of Greek life.

To refer a potential member, please e-mail Mike Hammond at [hammonme@email.uc.edu](mailto:hammonme@email.uc.edu) or give him a call at (901) 921-7659.

# Ohio Theta Alumni Share Their News

**Robert L. Bourquein '58**, a former senior foreign service officer for the US government's Agency for International Development, notes, "I've retired four times. My wife (Rae) and I are enjoying full retirement."



Bob and Rae (UC ZTA) have three children: Susan, Richard and Dan. Bob enjoys hiking, photography, scuba diving, traveling and computers. He also serves as a private pilot. Bob adds of her fraternity experience, "It assisted in working with people in a team as well as negotiating with foreign officials."

Drop a line to Bob at 3602 Tiger Eye Ct., Mulberry, FL 33860 or via e-mail at [bbourquein@hotmail.com](mailto:bbourquein@hotmail.com).

**Jon F. Bradford '80**, vice president of sales for Emerson Power Transmission, notes of his  $\Sigma\Phi E$  experience, "The sense of belonging and teamwork I found within the fraternity enabled me to learn how to work with a diverse group of personalities. My Sig Ep years were comparatively difficult for Ohio Theta, as we were trying to meet our budget and simply keep the house open. The challenges of those times prepared me for the challenges of business."

Jon also serves as a soccer and baseball coach. He adds, "My wife (Gayle) and I have two great teenage boys (Jon, 16, and Michael, 14) who are beginning their own college search. We live in beautiful Ithaca and love the local, eclectic scene. We follow the Bearcats regularly and are glad they are now in the Big East."

Jon and Gayle (UC AX $\Omega$ ), a homemaker, can be reached at 27 Pheasant Way, Ithaca, NY 14850 or via e-mail at [jbradford@emerson-cpt.com](mailto:jbradford@emerson-cpt.com).

**Ralph E. Krisher Jr. '62** shares, "My 42-year marriage ended in divorce in 2003. I spent weeks in the hospital in 2004. On December 4, 2004, I married my 'first love' from

high school (last seen 48 years before) and this last year has been the best—or at least one of the best—of my life."

Ralph, a retired patent lawyer, and his wife, Suzan (Dayton), a music publisher, have two sons between them: Ralph III and Reed.

Send your news to "Krish" via PO Box 1909, Marco Island, FL 34146 or e-mail at [rkrisher-fwa@att.net](mailto:rkrisher-fwa@att.net).

**Ely L. Hill '49** informs brothers, "I am still active in many things and surviving with a youthful attitude."

Ely, now retired, is a member of the L.E.O. McMillan #141 F&AM, Valley of Cincinnati Scottish Rite, York Rite Bodies and Syrian Shrine.

He adds, " $\Sigma\Phi E$  made me realize the importance of friendships as well as activities and long-term relationships. I was the second initiate of Ohio Theta, being the last full president of IXE."

Ely has three children: Webster, Victoria and Gregory. Contact Ely at 7480 Heatherwood Ln., Cincinnati, OH 45244.

**Ken D. "Cleete" Cleeter '73**, who had contracted the West Nile virus, brings brothers up-to-date, "Rehab is going well! I continue to improve and am walking more with my walker. I really enjoyed the basketball team this year. I went to the West Virginia game—it was great! Hire Andy."

Reconnect with Cleete at 9221 US Hwy. 50, Aurora, IN 47001 or via e-mail at [kcleeter@hotmail.com](mailto:kcleeter@hotmail.com).

**James A. Jones '63** is president and COO of Pleasant Street Homes. He and his wife, Madonna (AOPI), a homemaker, have two children: Jennifer and Jeffrey. Write to "Madule" at 53260 Monterey Dr., Bristol, IN 46507 or via e-mail at [jjones@homesbyibs.com](mailto:jjones@homesbyibs.com).

## Support Strengthens 'Theta Data'

The brothers of Ohio Theta Chapter thank the alumni who have made voluntary contributions to our newsletter program in recent months.

Your support makes a difference! In addition to helping us produce *Theta Data*, your voluntary contributions are making a number of improvements in our alumni relations program possible. We have already updated many addresses on our mailing list and have received many letters with positive comments, suggestions and personal notes to help us keep you better informed.

Thanks to the following brothers for their investment in the future of Ohio Theta Chapter—without your support, these improvements would not be possible:

John A. Abraham '77

Richard L. Amos '67

Jerry Artz '65

Bruce Baldwin '36

James G. Bokach '02

Robert L. Bourquein '59

Jim Bowman JD '52

Jon F. Bradford '81

Ken D. "Cleete" Cleeter '73

Wayne J. Conner '74

Glenn B. Cooper '62

Gary K. Cubbison '58

Rick Durham '65

Ron Eng '96

Thomas R. Gerdes '70

Al Harmann '62

Conrad Hetzer '59

Ely L. Hill '49

Jeffrey R. Kellar '93

Donald E. Kindle '55

Anthony J. Klein DDS '54

Stanley E. "Ox" Kopp '93

Ralph E. Krisher Jr. JD '62

Gary Lessis '83

Robert C. Loesch '63

Reineiro L. Medina III '99

Dr. Richard A. Menke '67

Dwight "Larry" Moody Jr. '63

David R. Mueller '76

Michael J. Ohm '89

Russ Overgard '58

Teddi Robeson

Thomas R. Scheckelhoff '67

W. Philip Shepardson Jr. '68

Paul H. Siegel '52

Francis J. Slavin Jr. JD '65

William H. Soupcoff '72

Thanks again, alumni!