

#### BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

**SPRING 2012** 



# IRIS

**EPSILON MU CHAPTER** 



# 45TH REUNION ENJOYED BY MANY

Third Annual Delt Golf Classic Set for Summer

Alumni at Friday night ritual, an event during the 45th anniversary weekend.

2011 was a great year for EM Delts as we celebrated another mile-stone—45 years! To celebrate this achievement, more than 150 EM Delts and guests gathered on the grounds of the Shelter for a weekend of brotherhood. We had several of the founding fathers in attendance, including Jim Nelson '67 (pin #1). It is amazing to think that nearly 1,200 Delts have been initiated into our chapter since Jim first took his sacred oath in 1966.

The 45th anniversary events included a model ritual and reception Friday evening, breakfast and tailgate before the game Saturday, and concluded with a celebration dinner banquet at the Shelter that evening. During the banquet, the chapter recognized brothers Terry Hunsucker '71, John Knox '78, and Jeff Hern '92 with Distinguished Chapter Service Awards for dedication and service to Epsilon Mu. Congratulations to these brothers for their commitment to our chapter and for "remembering those who follow."

Summer 2012 is right around the corner, and we are planning some exciting events. Please mark your calendar for July 28 for the third annu-

al Delt Golf Classic at Ironwood Golf Resort in Indianapolis. The event has grown to more than 60 brothers and we would love to see you at this year's outing. Watch your mailboxes or visit our Facebook page for more information.

Brothers, it is a great day to be a Delt! If you would like to volunteer as an advisor or assist with alumni events please contact me. We always welcome the opportunity to engage alumni who want to give back to the chapter that made such a positive impact on our lives. I look forward to catching up with you at the golf classic this summer.

Fraternally, **Brian Hobbs '99** 

Northern Division VP HC Alumni Relations Committee bshobbs@hotmail.com (317) 727-4477

# **Chapter Relies on Alumni for Recruitment Referrals**

300 Names Wanted for Summer Events

I was glad to see several brothers from the late '70s to the early '90s at the annual holiday party coordinated by **Jeff Elixman '86**. Pledge books materialized, photo albums were dusted off, and a good time was had by all. If you have not been before, you are missing out.

On July 28 we will gather for the third annual Delt Golf Classic at Ironwood Golf Resort in Indianapolis. The shotgun start will be around lunchtime. Get your team together now before it's sold out. For more details and updates on events, visit our Facebook page: BSU Delts Alumni.

With the participation of formal recruitment on the decline, we must seek out potential members through our own events. We know that the Greek experience is still relevant and popular, but now it is up to each chapter to find their own men. To help us gain strong pledge classes, we're looking to our greatest resource: our alumni. You know what it means to be an Epsilon Mu Delt and, collectively, you know a significant number of fine young men who fit the criteria: academically strong, leadership oriented, and good character.

Your children, neighbors, relatives, and coworkers are people to contact. Using these avenues, I found seven young men last fall. Even if half of our alumni base refers just one potential Delt,

we would have 500 potential candidates for our next pledge class.

Please send as much contact and biographical information as possible to me or Alumni Recruitment Advisor Eric Eicher '98 at ericscotteicher@gmail.com. We will assist the chapter in following up your recommendation.

Help us reach our goal of 300 names by May 15 and keep our chapter on top!

Fraternally, Jeff Hern '92

House Corporation President jeffhern@aol.com

THE IRIS

# **Brothers Attend Northern Division Conference**

Success in Academics, Philanthropy Earn Recognition

Last semester provided another step toward building the legacy of Epsilon Mu Chapter. The men placed first in IFC service hours (14.5 hours per member, 709 total) and first in money raised for charity (\$5,500). Academically, the men ranked fourth out of 12 IFC chapters with a 2.9 G.P.A. This is above the all-male average of 2.77 and the all-IFC average of 2.8.

Fourteen members attended the Delta Tau Delta Northern Division conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. At the conference, we received recognition for involvement in Adopt-A-School and for a G.P.A. above the all-fraternity average at Ball State. Additionally, we placed 18th of 122 Delt chapters that submitted the Fraternity Awards and Accreditation Reports. This is a great accomplishment and a testament of all the undergraduates' hard work.

The men were also honored at the conference by presenting the model ritual. It is truly an honor to be asked to perform the ritual at a division conference, and the men of Epsilon Mu stepped up to the task and performed superbly. Congratulations and a special thank-you to those who attended the conference and participated in the presentation.



Alumni at the Northern Division conference. From left: John Knox '77, Terry Hunsucker '71, David Frye '04, Brian Hobbs '99, and Dan Hockney '65. Not shown: Jordan Knox '10 and Brett Benson '98.

Congratulations are also due to the brothers who qualified for the Kershner Scholarship: Eric Andonian '15, Garrett Heathcote '14, T. J. Hurst '15, Will Stephens '15, Sean Bergman '12, Scott Gogolin '13, Eric Levitt '14, Donald Paff '13, Tom Reese '13, Drew Tarkington '12, Ryan Williams '14, and John Wolfschlag '14. A job well done to these men.

Since the fall edition of the *Iris* there have been some changes to our alumni advising team. We are excited to welcome two new members, **Evan Hardin** '07 and **Dan Hockney** '65. Evan will fill the position of risk management advisor and Dan will replace **Terry Hunsucker** '71 as alumni relations advisor.

If you are interested in volunteering please contact me. Consider giving back to your chapter and fraternity we all care so much about.

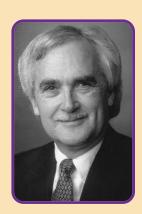
Brothers, it's a great day to be a Delt.

Fraternally,

David Frye '04

Chapter Advisor
dwfrye@bsu.edu

## GARY RIGGLE '70 FEELS FORTUNATE FOR OPPORTUNITIES



The night Gary Riggle '70 pledged Epsilon Mu is top of mind. "As I walked up the driveway to the Shelter and was recognized by the brothers waiting, I was mobbed with hugs and pats on the back as a welcome to the fraternity," he says. "It was a memorable introduction to the brotherhood."

Today, Gary remains close with a few brothers from Epsilon Mu. "There is a group of four or five of us in central Indiana who gather occasionally for dinner to reminisce and catch up on our lives." He believes it's important to stay in touch with one another, as well as with the undergraduate chapter.

"Alumni provide the support for the chapter to prosper. The fraternity gave me a lot more than I will ever be able to return, and I think it is our responsibility to support and provide a legacy for the future." As for the younger Delt brothers, he says, "Work hard, work hard,"

"Other than the excellent academic education from Ball State, Delta Tau Delta was the single most important aspect of my college life. It provided an opportunity for me to live, work, and learn with a varied and diverse community of individuals," shares Gary.

When Gary graduated, he did not have job plans. "The opportunity was there to join my father in the funeral business. I decided to try it for a while and almost 40 years later I'm still trying." He has been a licensed funeral director with Riggle-Waltermann since 1971 and credits it as a marvelous and gratifying career.

Gary and his wife, Chris, reside in Richmond, Indiana, and have two grown children, Gwynne and Geoff, a daughter-in-law, Sarah, and one grandchild. In Gary's free time, he enjoys working in the community and serves several civic organizations, and his church. He also has a hobby of collecting music from the '60s and '70s. E-mail: griggle@gmail.com

DELTA TAU DELTA

## DELT ALUMNUS HAS WATCHFUL EYE

#### Spotlight on Meteorologist Brent Trantum '91

Brent Trantum '91 graduated with a degree in telecommunications and later earned his broadcast meteorology degree at Mississippi State University. He started his professional career in 1994 in Missoula, Montana, and worked his way to larger cities, eventually landing his current job in 1999. Known on-air as Brent Cameron, he is the weekend meteorologist and primary fill-in for the chief meteorologist at WSVN-TV in Miami, Florida.

Prior to pursuing his weather career, Brent served as a chapter consultant for Delta Tau Delta. "There were six of us zigzagging the country on behalf of  $\Delta T \Delta$  with the intent of helping and reviewing various chapters. I visited more than 80 chapters from the east to west coast. The experience was a high point for me and I have many great memories from that busy time of my life."

Brent also remembers his early undergraduate days, noting that joining Epsilon Mu was an obvious choice. "I researched and visited a few fraternities, and it was pretty obvious which fraternity really had its act together." He credits the chapter for providing a solid foundation to become a well-rounded student. "Thanks to Delta Tau Delta, I was encouraged to get



involved in several campus activities," he says. "I was proud to represent the chapter when I was voted student body vice president during my junior year and president my senior year. Incidentally, Delta Tau Delta had a deep-rooted tradition of being involved in high-profile campus offices, and I was glad that I could carry on the tradition."

Homecoming was also a fun time for Brent, as one year he was on the royal court and got to ride through the parade in a horse-drawn carriage with two queen candidates and fellow king candidate, **Mo Bunnell '90**. "Events like Homecoming and Watermelon Bust were just a couple highlights of my time at college, but they are two examples of some of my all-time favorite memories."

He checks in occasionally with his closest brothers and looks forward to a return trip so he can see everyone and all the changes to the chapter house. "Staying involved keeps you young; it also benefits others and the fraternity in general," he says. "My Delt experience gave me the foundation for virtually everything I've faced since then. Honestly, it was lifechanging for me and I remain grateful for the opportunity."

# An Early History by Dan Hockney '65

n January 15, five founding brothers of Epsilon Mu joined its active members at the chapter's first meeting of the spring semester to present a newly penned *Early History* of its founding, dating back to 1961. Louie Russell '67 (pin #18), Brad Wagnon '68 (pin #4), Joe Erne '68 (pin #2), and Jim Nelson '67 (pin #1) accompanied me (pin #11) as I presented the document. Contributors to the *Early History* included charter members Dennis Hockney '65 (pin #10), Tom Seffrin '66 (pin #12), Tom Murray '68 (pin #16), Louie Russell, Jim Nelson, Joe Erne, and me.

Prologue from the Early History

From a small, cramped, smoke-filled attic storage room on the fourth floor of historic Elliott Hall came a group of men determined to alter the landscape of Ball State Teachers College. Then came the induction of the Epsilon Mu Chapter of Delta Tau Delta International Fraternity on the Ball State University campus; thus, the landscape was forever transformed.

And to think, I was one of the privileged to have spent time in that very small, crowded, and smoke-filled storage room some 48 years ago. What a pleasure it was to spend time with Randy Ziolkowski, Tom Seffrin, Ron Lancioni, Lyle Thompson, Jeff Snyder, Jerry Brelege, Fred Woodruff '66, and Gary Turner '74.

From 1961 to 1963, various Elliott Hall residents joined this camaraderie while others departed and linked themselves with established fraternities and other campus organizations. However, the residents who associated with the group after the

1962-63 school year became a group of committed men in sync and bonded. We participated in intramural sports and Elliott Hall government. In time, we determined that a moniker—an identity—was needed. Upon Randy Ziolkowski's suggestion, Goovna became that moniker. I never imagined then, that such a name would spawn a fraternity.

Goovna membership increased and we became more involved in campus life, including participation in the bike-a-thon, talent show, and campus government. Organizing required a constitution, election of officers, and approval of the Ball State Senate. We accomplished all of this, and on December 12, 1963, the Goovnas became an approved campus organization.

At that same time, a group of freshmen from Wagoner Hall (Fratry) was organizing. Fratry members included Louie Russell, Tom Murray, and **Dan Guio '68**. Because Fratry did not wish to maneuver through the politics of formal organization, they met with Goovna to determine prospects of joining. On January 27, 1964, Fratry members who accepted Goovna's invitation were activated.

An energetic group of underclassmen also joined Goovna. All was in place to entertain local fraternity status. This was accomplished with a name change—Pi Delta Gamma, a new constitution, new officers, additional involvement in student organizations and activities, and formal confirmation by the Interfraternity Council on December 17, 1964. With the original

(Continued on page 5)

THE IRIS

## **EPSILON MU SETS GOALS FOR 2012**

#### Philanthropic Involvement at Its Finest

After the chapter's new officer retreat and the 2012 Northern Division Conference, the brothers of Epsilon Mu were eager to establish goals that raise our academic standing, increase our philanthropic giving, and produce a new class of outstanding pledges.

Epsilon Mu held a successful Watermelon Bust in the fall. Eighty-five teams registered to participate and the event raised \$14,757. This spring, the chapter continued its philanthropic endeavors with the Army Games on Saturday, March 17.

Increasing membership is a constant goal of Epsilon Mu. We recruited 10 men for the fall pledge class and aim to have 20 new members this spring. Recruitment events are underway and all indications suggest that we will meet, and possibly exceed, our goal of gaining 20 exceptional pledges. If you have any membership recommendations, please send them to our advisors at jeffhern@aol.com or ericscotteicher@gmail.com.

We look forward to adding a new class of men to Epsilon Mu through our ongoing recruitment efforts. The chapter is doing wonderful things, as are the individual members. Congratulations to former President Michael Ely '12 for being voted Greek of the Week by campus Greek officers, Kyle McEvoy '14 who was elected vice president of public relations for IFC, and to the 12 brothers who qualified for the Kershner Scholarship.

Thank you to all alumni who attended our 45th reunion and to those who donate their time and money to assist the chapter. Please know that you are

invited to attend chapter events, including our regular weekly meetings. We look forward to seeing you soon.



Fraternally, Cameron Seni '13 Chapter President (317) 437-8800 cameronseni@gmail.com

## Welcome, New Members

Eric Adonian '15 Kaleb Barajas '15 Zach Brindley '15 Eddie Downs '14 Garrett Heathcote '14 T.J. Hurst '15 Cameron Kotterman '15 Logan Stevens '15

Zach Weaver '15

## **ALUMNI UPDATE**

#### **CHAPTER ETERNAL**

Jeffrey T. Fike '84 entered Chapter Eternal on December 9, 2011. He is survived by his mother, Karen Phillip Shank; brother, Greg; former wife, Pam Fike; nephews, Gary and Grant Fike; brother-in-law, Brent Shank; sister-in-law, Becka Serikow; and extended family members. Jeff is remembered by his pledge brothers as "very nice and straight forward. Always there for you and an all-around good guy and, as we all know, always ready for a cocktail or party."

#### **ALUMNI NEWS**

**Dennis W. Hockney '65** retired in 2004 after 39 years in education. For the last 21 years he served as superintendent of schools. He and his wife, Linda, live in Antioch, Ill., and have four grandchildren and enjoy traveling.

Daniel W. Guio '68 enjoys semi-retirement with a part-time job. He completed construction of a custom home one year ago and will travel to Europe this summer. He plans to take a car trip from Munich to Amsterdam for two weeks. E-mail: dguio@indy.rr.com

**Doug S. Siebert '68** had a good time at the 45th reunion and sees the chapter working hard. "Always be proud to be a Delt and build strong character in the chapter."

**Brad Wagnon '68** sold his business, Communications Network Inc. He and his wife, Daphne, reside in Muncie, Ind., but will move to the lake by 2013. E-mail: b.wagnon4@gmail.com

Clifford E. Cochran '69 and his wife, Jane, reside in Myrtle Beach, S.C. In 2011, they hosted three meetings of the Myrtle Beach area Delta Tau Delta-Epsilon Mu Alumni Association. At each meeting, "old business was discussed—from what we could remember!" Cliff enjoyed reuniting with Terry Hunsucker '71, Brad Wagnon '68, Mike Szentesy '70, and

their spouses. Cliff also met with **Doug Richards '71** at a Fishers area meeting just before the 45th reunion. E-mail: ccochranjr@sc.rr.com

Randall C. Robinson '71 started R2Advertising in October 2011. He also publishes *Great Deals of Jay County*, a direct-mail savings magazine. "Crazy," he says. "I should be retiring!" Randy and his wife, Becky, live in Muncie, Ind., and have two children and two grandchildren. E-mail: randy@greatdealsmagazine.net

Ron A. White '74 lives with his wife, Jane, in Noblesville, Ind. They have three children: Ryan, Brittany, and Collin. E-mail: rwhite6123@aol.com

**Michael J. Hebenstreit '80** is the food and beverage director for Marquette University. He and his wife, Sheila, live in Noblesville, Ind., and have a son, John.

Alan E. Updike '80 is involved in a variety of national security programs at a department of energy facility in Kansas City, Mo. The highly secure facility manufactures electronic and mechanical components for nuclear weapons and classified products supporting the U.S. national laboratories and national security customers. He is a former board member of the Federal Laboratory Consortium. Alan and his wife, Janice, live in Overland Park, Kan., and enjoy traveling. E-mail: aeu@kc.rr.com

**Jeff Huston '88** and his wife, Sally, live in Cedarville, Ohio, with their three children: Kelly (18), Jamie (16), and Steven (13). After graduating, Jeff was a licensed pharmacist for 10 years. He enjoyed training interns and looked into teaching professionally. He has since lectured at Ohio State University College of Pharmacy and Ohio State College of Medicine. Jeff enjoyed working with inner city clinics and volunteering for free clinics, taking a team of 35 students on an annual mission trip to Honduras. In 2010, he joined Cedarville University to help develop its

**DELTA TAU DELTA** 



President
Cameron Seni '13
cameronseni@gmail.com

Eric Andonian '15 ejandonian@bsu.edu

V.P. of Committees

Jonathan Wolfschlag '14

Academics Eric Levitt '14

V.P. of Accreditation **Tom Reese '13** 

Ritualist/Guide
Trey DesJardin '14

Risk Management Jacob Wildauer '14 Sergeant-at-Arms **Kyle McEvoy '14** 

Treasurer Scott Gogolin '13

Recording Secretary Scott Overmyer '14

Corresponding Secretary

Aaron Berry '14

school of pharmacy and enjoys continuing his work with OSU College of Medicine. E-mail: jeffhustonrph@gmail.com

**George A. Kraus '89** completed his graduate work in public health in 1994 and will begin work toward a Ph.D. in epidemiology in the fall. E-mail: gkraus@hhcorp.org

Mike T. Newkirk '89 is a national account director for ConAgra Foods. He and his wife, Kristin, live in Carmel, Ind. E-mail: mike.newkirk1@yahoo.com

**Scott A. Mackeben '91** is a lieutenant for Palatine Fire Department. He and his wife, Lynn, live in Crystal Lake, Ill., and have two sons, Matthew and Sam.

**Rob W. Shrieve '98** and his wife, Jessie, live in Bluffton, S.C., and have three children: Matthew, Addi, and Liz.

**John B. Scott '99** is manager of compensation for the City of Orlando and lives in Winter Garden, Fla., with his wife, Esther, and 4-year-old son, Alexander. E-mail: jbs140.6@gmail.com

Vincent J. Harcourt '07 is the sales director for Scotlynn USA in Fort Myers, Fla., and is hiring account executives. He would like to connect with young alumni who want a lucrative and rewarding career in sales. E-mail: vjharcourt@gmail.com

Conrad H. Jacobs '09 resides in Carmel, Ind., and works as a broker while pursuing his law degree. E-mail: cjacobs@nkfhalakar.com

**Jonathan C. Ross '09** is the owner of Cochran Exteriors LLC in Indianapolis, Ind. E-mail: jrcochran2@gmail.com

# **An Early History**

(Continued from page 3)



Dan Hockney '65, Louis Russell '67, Jim Nelson '67, Joe Erne '00, and Brad Wagnon '68 at a chapter meeting on January 15. Alumni delivered a revised history book to the chapter, correcting some misnomers.

Goovna members nearing graduation and other members reaching upperclassman status, a void developed. This was filled by Pi Delta Gamma's powerful first pledge class, which included Jim Nelson, Brad Wagnon, Joe Erne, Tom Borshoff '69, Mike Cress '68, and Mark Burkhart '67. When these pledges activated, I knew that we were now ready to become a national fraternity colony.

In 1965, my Pi Delt brothers and I packed our entire membership into my twin brother's dorm room to discuss which national affiliation we favored. At about 1 a.m., we unanimously elected to affiliate with Delta Tau Delta International Fraternity. On April 5, 1965, Pi Delta Gamma became a Delta Tau Delta colony.

The men installed into Epsilon Mu Chapter as charter members on November 12, 1966, all stood proud; but no one stood taller than we three charter Goovnas who became charter Pi Delts and then charter Delts: Tom Seffrin; my twin brother, Denny; and me.

So, why did pin numbers 1, 2, 4, 11, and 18 travel from Columbia City, Indianapolis, Kokomo, and Columbus to Muncie on a cold January evening? Pride. Yes, we are proud to be founding fathers of a fraternity that has celebrated 45 years of distinction on the Ball State campus. As we met for dinner prior to the chapter meeting, discussion was filled with memories centered on the legacy we established and the camaraderie that still exists among us. Then, when we entered the Riverside Shelter after dinner, we knew why. Active members greeted us commensurate with a greeting only one Delt can convey to another. We were back home.

As for me, I am humbled to be one of only a few who entered Ball State Teachers College in 1961 to begin a journey that led to the founding of a fraternal brotherhood.

To request a PDF copy of the nine-page *Early History*, contact Dan Hockney at dhockney02@gmail.com.

# SAVE THE DATE

Third Annual Delt Golf Classic Saturday, July 28 Ironwood Golf Resort in Indianapolis Shotgun Start Around Lunchtime

## 45th Anniversary Reunites More Than 150 Delts— See Page 1 for Details



Brad Wagnon '68 presents the Alumni Distinguished Service Award to Jeff Hern '92 at the 45th anniversary banquet.



Brad Wagnon '68 presents the Alumni Distinguished Service Award to John Knox '78.



Brad Wagnon '68 presents the Alumni Distinguished Service Award to Terry Hunsucker '71.

# THE



IRIS

Delta Tau Delta Association of Muncie P.O. Box 6261 Fishers, IN 46038-6261

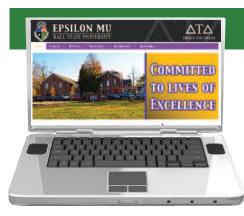
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Attention: This newsletter is intended for alumni and parents. If your son is still attending Ball State University, he will receive a copy at the chapter house. If he has graduated, please send us his permanent address to update our records. Thank you.



 $Alumni\ gather\ for\ the\ 45th\ anniversary\ banquet.$ 



## FIND US ON THE WEB

#### **Check Out Our Facebook Group**

Search for "BSU Delts Alumni" and click "Like" to view photos, receive event announcements, and connect with your Epsilon Mu brothers.

### Twitter

@BallStateDelts

**Epsilon Mu Chapter** www.bsudelts.org