

UPCOMING EVENTS



Omicron Summer 2014 Reunion '70s, '80s and '90s

June 13-14, 2014

During the weekend of Friday, June 13, and Saturday, June 14, Omicron's Brothers and Little Sisters will be getting together. This weekend is being organized primarily for alumni from the '70s, '80s and '90s eras, although alumni from any era are more than welcome to join us.

Please join us, enjoy the company of old friends and remember what State College is like without game-day crowds. Don't let another decade slip by!

Save the date and look for more details to follow on our website, www.pktomicron.com.

Schedule of Events

Friday

- Trap Clays
- Happy Hour, Chapter House

Saturday

- Golf Outing
- Winery Tour
- Catered Pig Roast and Party, Chapter House

RSVP

David Lapinski ('70s)
davidclapinski@aol.com

Bob McHenry ('80s)
ftmchenry@gmail.com

Chris Tenny ('90s)
tennycj@gmail.com

Or go to <http://pktreunion.eventbrite.com> to RSVP online. We look forward to seeing you in June!

www.pktomicron.com

Spring 2014

Omicronicle

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STATUS OF THE CAMPAIGN

After Five Months, We Are 17% of the Way There ... Can We Count on Your Generosity?

By Robert Kaiser '74, Capital Campaign Committee

The Omicron Chapter of Phi Kappa Tau's *Preserving Our Tradition, Building Our Future Capital Campaign* is well underway and doing well. To date, we have raised \$269,600 from 51 alumni.

This winter, you should have received a brochure detailing our vision for the renovations, the case for scholarship dollars based on the ever-rising cost of college tuition and leadership opportunities for our young actives. We are asking each of our more than 850 alumni to make a pledge to the campaign.

When you divide our goal of \$1,500,000 among the brotherhood, the math is easy. If each alum would contribute a total of \$1,500 over the three-year pledge period, we would have all the funding we need. That is a gift of \$41.66 per month, \$125 a quarter, \$250 bi-annually or \$500 a year – less than most of us spend on cable TV or our cell phone bill.

No matter your circumstances, we ask you to make your pledge today!

GIVE \$1,500 – For those of you who can give \$500 per year over the next three years, please do.

GIVE MORE – We know that not everyone is in a position to give. For that reason, we ask those of you who can do more to do so to cover for your fellow Brothers who cannot make a gift at this time.

GIVE WHAT YOU CAN – Gifts of all sizes are accepted, and we hope you will give at the highest level you are able, no matter that amount. Every penny really does count.

The table above shows the required payments (yearly, bi-yearly, quarterly or monthly) to pay

your pledge in full over three years.

We need every Brother to give what he can – give for those who can't, just graduated or are

| Pledge Amount | Yearly Payment | Bi-Yearly Payment | Quarterly Payment | Monthly Payment |
|---------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| \$15,000 | \$5,000.00 | \$2,500.00 | \$1,250.00 | \$416.46 |
| \$13,500 | \$4,500.00 | \$2,250.00 | \$1,125.00 | \$375.00 |
| \$12,000 | \$4,000.00 | \$2,000.00 | \$1,000.00 | \$333.33 |
| \$10,500 | \$3,500.00 | \$1,750.00 | \$875.00 | \$291.67 |
| \$9,000 | \$3,000.00 | \$1,500.00 | \$750.00 | \$250.00 |
| \$7,500 | \$2,500.00 | \$1,250.00 | \$625.00 | \$208.33 |
| \$6,000 | \$2,000.00 | \$1,000.00 | \$500.00 | \$166.67 |
| \$4,500 | \$1,500.00 | \$750.00 | \$375.00 | \$125.00 |
| \$3,000 | \$1,000.00 | \$500.00 | \$250.00 | \$83.33 |
| \$1,500 | \$500.00 | \$250.00 | \$120.00 | \$41.67 |

gone. Give to honor your time at Omicron, your friendships and the lessons you learned under that roof. Give to ensure that the next generation of Omicrons has the same opportunities.

1970s Matching Opportunity

A special opportunity has been placed on the table for you by one of our 1970s era members. **Ric Struthers '76** has endowed a \$50,000 donation for a Struthers Phi Kappa Tau Scholarship Fund and has pledged to match, dollar for dollar, up to another \$50,000 of scholarship donations from Brothers from the '70s era. This includes the 150 men who were members of the House during that decade. This scholarship endowment will be known as the Penn State Phi Kappa Tau Scholarship Fund and will be administered by the university, designated for Omicron Chapter of Phi Kappa Tau undergraduates in good standing with Penn State and our fraternity chapter.

Ric has focused his philanthropic efforts on providing students of Penn State financial assistance as the cost of attending the university

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STATUS OF THE CAMPAIGN, CONT.

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continues to increase and students are leaving college with significant debt. Last year, 66 percent of PSU graduates graduated with \$33,530 in loans that need to be repaid as they start their careers. Our undergraduate Brothers are no exception to these startling statistics.

With Ric's pledge and agreement to match others, we are well on our way to achieving the \$250,000 scholarship endowment goal. The scholarships directly support our Penn State Phi Taus and the Chapter by increasing our membership. More members = stronger finances = more improvements of all kinds to our House! Your gift to the scholarship fund is tax deductible. I hope you will participate in this effort.

For additional information or to discuss how to contribute to the matching effort, please contact any of the following:

Ric Struthers '76

302-559-3486, ricstruthers@gmail.com

Bob Kaiser '74

301-388-0513, backupking1977@gmail.com

David Lapinski '74

814-883-1778, davidclapinski@aol.com

Annual Fund vs. Capital Campaign ... Two Critical Funds for Omicron Chapter

WHY is Omicron asking for money again? It may be a little confusing, but we've got several things going on. To clear up any possible confusion, keep reading to see what all we are doing and how you can help.

While we don't want to take away focus from the Capital Campaign to fully renovate the Chapter House and provide essential scholarship funding for our active chapter, we also want you to know that our Alumni Dues Program is as important as ever and we are not putting it "on hold."

In fact, we will be communicating more frequently with alumni for the next few months, hosting a number of regional alumni events and continuing with the newsletter and other annual alumni outreach. For these reasons, it is more important than ever that alumni support the dues program.

Stated simply: The Capital Campaign will support major renovations and scholarships to our undergrads, while the Annual Dues Program helps to fund

alumni communications and events, supports the active chapter, and pays for minor repairs at the House and Annex. Both programs are vital to our success! If you have questions about the differences, please contact Dave Lapinski at 814-883-1778.

Please help us reach that goal by making your payment to the Alumni Dues Program today. You may pay online at www.pktomicron.com or call our donations hotline at 1-800-975-6699. Checks may be sent to Omicron Association Inc., P.O. Box 905, State College, PA 16804-0905.

To make a Capital Campaign gift, please reach our campaign manager, Ellen Konkle, at ellen@affinityconnection.com or at 814-571-0576 and she will be happy to answer any questions you have, send you a pledge form or take your pledge over the phone.

Whether it's for the dues program, the Capital Campaign or both, Omicron needs and appreciates your support of all our efforts!

CAMPAIGN HONOR ROLL

Thank you to those Brothers who have made a pledge to Omicron Chapter of Phi Kappa Tau's *Preserving Our Tradition, Building Our Future Capital Campaign* (pledges as of 4/22/14). We want to add your name to the list! See information above on how you can make a gift!

Ray S. Walker '33
H. Mitchell Schmidt '46
Charles H. Naginey '51
James R. Griffiths '54
Bill Heath '54
Donald F. Rieco '54
Richard Wagner '54
William I. Lindley '56
G. Nelson Van Fleet '56
John Yaag '56
Roy R. Rosenberger '57
Walter P. Scott '57
Frank Sterba '57
Emanuel Orfanon '58
Richard C. Bosserman '61
Vell H. Holcombe '61
Robert Folwell '74
Robert G. Kaiser II '74

David C. F. Lapinski '74
Gary A. McKown Col., USA (Ret.) '74
William J. O'Neill '74
H. Jerry Rose '74
Richard Struthers '76
Jeffrey C. Turicik '76
Thomas J. Haulik '78
Frederick Kotalik '79
Harry Robinson '79
Adam Bronstein '83
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Holcombe '86
Robert W. McHenry '86
Stuart Ray Rosenberg DVM '86
Edward George Dudley '88
Wayne Edward Thayer '88
Marc Edward Foremsky '89
Vince Bilovsky '90
Michael McGuire '91

Eric Tarquinio '92
Patrick Walker '92
Jason Birdsell '95
Albert Brocius '95
Christopher Nesselrode '95
Scott Szathmary '95
Andrew Cecere '99
Matt Hudson '05
Alan Rider '05
David Go '06

Calling on Every Class

Class letters were recently sent to every Omicron Chapter alum. We hope you will take this opportunity to stand with your class and make your gift today!

CHAPTER ETERNAL

We have learned of the sudden passing of **Gilbert Sergeant '58**. Gib served as chapter president and an IFC officer. In the 1980s, he served as domain director for the Phi Kappa Tau New York chapters. Gib was a consistent supporter of Omicron and a regular attendee at Homecoming and the '50s reunions.

We send our condolences to Gib's friends and family, including his wife Carol and his son, Mark (initiated into Omicron in 1985).

Building on the Future ... Literally!



The brick patio that was built last fall has been a popular addition for both undergrads and alumni alike. In addition, alumni continue to send in their forms to have their engraved bricks added to the patio. If you have not yet sent in your form, you can download one online at www.pktomicron.com and send it in to have your brick engraved and installed by Homecoming of 2014.

CHAPTER REPORT

Omicron Brings in \$162,749 FOR THE KIDS and a Record 19 New Members

By Ryan Weaver, Omicron Chapter Alumni Relations Chair

The list of new Omicron Brothers on the right represents some of the success our undergraduates have had this semester. Spring rush began with Zone Day and continued with a few other recruiting events which resulted in our initiation of 19 new members. We welcome them to Omicron!



Omicron Brothers (l-r) Colin Crawford, Edward Colligon, Marc Lubenetski and Bryan Carse on the floor of the Bryce Jordan Center during THON.

Fashioned after "The Hunger Games," this year's Greek Week was themed "The Greek Games." We were partnered with Delta Chi and Gamma Phi Beta ... a team referred to as District 9. It was a great time of competition and unity across the PSU Greek community.

On Sunday, April 6, we held our inaugural Parents Weekend Golf Outing. Awards were handed to those teams who won in various categories. Additionally, mothers and sons

participated in a version of the Newlywed Game, and the top teams were awarded.

Undoubtedly, our most significant philanthropy event this semester was THON. It is a scene like none other. For those of you who have been part of THONs past, you know.

Where else can you go to experience the energy of a truly altruistic group of college students — complete with water pistols, balloons, plungers, hula hoops, crazy socks, line dances, pep rallies, inspirational speeches from some of Penn State's most notable personalities, incredibly choreographed performances and 46 hours of no sleep?

And it is all ... FOR THE KIDS ... to continue Penn State's 37-year tradition of saving children from the grip of pediatric cancer.

Thanks to our chapter's yearlong canning and fundraising efforts with Phi Mu, we contributed \$162,749.08 toward Penn State's \$13,343,517.33 total that will be given to the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital.

So, thank you to our dancers, brothers who stood by the dancers, captains, parents who attended, alumni

who stopped by and to the entire THON organization for its incredible support. This is why ... WE ARE.

We are pleased to announce that Bryan Carse has been elected our THON chair for 2015. Assisting him will be Harrison Meyer, Matt Alperin, Ed Culligan and Matt Rollman.

New Pledges

Eli Claxton – Chester Springs, Pa.
Chris Ciccarone – Freehold, N.J.
Yianni Dramalis – Basking Ridge, N.J.
Hunter Rowe – Clinton, N.J.
Jason Jovic – Bayside, N.Y.
Dan Knight – Philadelphia, Pa.
Mike Gutierrez – Toms River, N.J.
Mitch McCaffrey – Gibsonia, Pa.
Trip Caulfield – Bryn Mawr, Pa.
Alex Smith – West Islip, N.Y.
Connor Greeley – Grantham, N.H.
Ivan Hernandez – Guayaquil, Ecuador
Gustavo Chavez Souza – Rio De Janeiro, Brazil
Dom Splendore – Philadelphia, Pa.
Manuel Vives – Barranquilla, Columbia
Sam Halle – Springfield, Va.
Kamal Narouz – Columbia, Pa.
Jason Fine – Allentown, Pa.
Jack Rende – Fairfield, Conn.

ANNUAL FUND HONOR ROLL

The Brothers listed below have made a commitment to maintaining the daily operations of our Omicron Chapter and have made a gift to our Annual Fund which began on July 1, 2013. To date, these 127 donors have made contributions totaling \$27,977. Thank you!*

The Hintz Fellows (\$1,000+)

Francis A. Gansz '57
Roy R. Rosenberger '57
Richard Struthers '76

The 408 Club (\$408)

H. Mitchell Schmidt '46
Robert Y. Murray '54
G. Nelson Van Fleet '56
Vell H. Holcombe '61
R. Jerry Grossman '63
Mark A. Toniatti '70
John C. Felmy '74
Robert G. Kaiser II '74
David C. F. Lapinski '74
Marc Edward Foremsky '89
Jens Thorsen '96

The Omicron Order (\$250-\$407.99)

William C. Westley Jr. '52
George R. Seid '53
Donald F. Rieco '54
Howard F. Thompson '54
William Collier '55
Al Bornemann '58
E. R. Raffle, USN (Ret.) '58
Ronald G. Wertz '58
James D. Wood '58
George W. De Groft Jr. '66
Robert E. Miller '73
William J. O'Neill '74
Frederick Kotalik '79
Regis T. Repko '82
Kurt Michael Dodds '84
Nelson R. Fairchild Jr. '85

Michael Gillespie '86
Stuart Ray Rosenberg DVM '86
Stephen Christopher Yaroch '89
John H. Stimson '90
Dan Bicehouse '91
Jason Birdsell '95
Jason Harrison '96
Thomas Wheatley '96
Michael Richard Stanzione '02

The Brothers Circle (\$100-\$249.99)

Jason Cook
Ray S. Walker '33
Christian L. Siebert Jr. '34
John C. Schmidt '49
Henry W. Johnson III '52
Robert B. Watson '52
John E. Werner '52
James R. Griffiths '54
Bill Heath '54
Laurence C. Shaheen '54
Leroy W. Varettoni '54
Barry G. Pifer '55
William I. Lindley '56
Richard D. Strickler '56
Walter P. Scott '57
Mike G. Hancock Jr. '58
Paul Bohn Jr. '59
Robert C. Edgar '59
John E. Francis Jr. '59
John P. Sweeney '60
Richard C. Bosserman '61
Charles O. Drum '61
Michael E. Orlic '61
Edward S. Boger '62

Edward J. Kabala Esq. '62
Philip J. Marrie Jr. '62
Dexter V. Hancock '65
H. Michael Boyd '66
Robert D. Forwood '66
Bruce V. Pettersen '67
Dennis J. Sobota '67
Joseph M. Cerra '68
Eric A. Johnson '68
Robert E. Byrd '69
Neal Halbe '69
Leon P. Reitnauer '70
Randy W. Schaeffer '73
Gary A. McKown Col., USA (Ret.) '74
H. Jerry Rose '74
Lee F. Burkett '76
James L. Caropresi '76
Brian Chodrow '76
Jeffrey Dinerman '76
James E. Kremmel Jr. '76
Robert A. Schoppert '76
Gregory L. Zink '76
John M. Kroft '77
Thomas J. Haulik '78
David W. Tyree '78
Richard S. Wendler '78
Thomas Charles Zadan '82
Edward J. McNelis III '83
Louis C. LiVolsi III '84
Craig T. Cullinane '85
Robert W. McHenry '86
Thomas James Boland '88
Edward George Dudley '88
David Edward Hall '89
Joseph Puerzer '90
Michael McGuire '91

Eric Tarquinio '92
Peter Schultes '93
Christopher Reid '95
Aaron Bodenschatz '96
Jonathan Philip Hazen '96
John Rimmer '96
Rich Hoffacker '97
Matt Shaner '01
Matt Hudson '05

Delta Tau Omega (\$50-\$99.99)

Charles H. Naginey '51
Robert A. Navarra '58
Robert O. Bryson '61
Joseph T. Hogan '66
P. David Kerna '70
Gary M. Ottey '70
Richard C. Wagner '72
John Allison Jacobs '76
Jeffrey C. Turicik '76
Edward V. Smarsh Jr. '81
William L. Glover '82
Thomas L. Donnelly II '83
Steven Kovack '98
Jesse Anderson '01
Kyle Figard '07

Other

Edward J. Sekula Jr. '60
Samuel Q. Schaeffer '63
James A. Renner '67

**Reflects gifts as of 4/22/14.*

SENIOR PROFILES

Oh, the Places They Will Go

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself in any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. You are the guy who'll decide where you go."

With these words from Dr. Seuss, we introduce you to two of our graduating seniors as they set out on new adventures. Watch for more profiles in our monthly eLetters.

Tim Bogatchev

Born in Moscow, Russia, and raised in Bethesda, Md., Tim will be graduating with a



major in computer science and engineering. Following graduation, he will be moving to Texas to work for CA Technologies as a software engineer. "Omicron has been important in teaching me people skills. They are everything. You can't get far in life without them." Tim can be reached at tbogatchev@gmail.com.

Marc "Lube" Lubentski

Marc is a chemical engineering major



from Quakertown, Pa. Following graduation, he will be working for Emerson Rosemount in their process management division in Minnesota for one year, then moving to Maryland to become a technical sales rep.

"I met my friends at Omicron. My favorite memory has to be living at our senior house over the summer of 2011 with five Brothers and what we did to entertain ourselves during those summer days."