

HOMECOMING

PSU vs. Northwestern Sept. 26-28, 2014

As Coach Franklin ushers in a new chapter of PSU football, we invite you back to Omicron to be part of it. Here is what we have planned:



Friday, Sept. 26

- 5:00 p.m.: Homecoming parade, College Ave.
- 8:00 p.m.: Alumni open house, light hors d'oeuvres

Saturday, Sept. 27

- Noon: Kickoff vs. Northwestern at Beaver Stadium
- 6:00 p.m.: Dinner at the chapter house
- 7:00 p.m.: House Corporation meeting open to all alumni and senior undergraduates
- 8:30 p.m.: Alumni open house

Sunday, Sept. 28

- 9:30 a.m.: Board of Directors meeting open to all alumni and senior undergraduates

Please go online to our website — www.pktomicron.com — where you can register and see what other brothers will be in attendance. We look forward to seeing you in a few weeks!

PSU FOOTBALL

9/6 vs. Akron, Noon

9/13 at Rutgers, 8:00 p.m.

9/20 vs. UMass, TBA

9/27 vs. Northwestern, Noon

10/11 at Michigan, 7:00 p.m.

10/25, vs. OSU, 8:00 p.m.

11/1 vs. Maryland, TBA

11/8 at Indiana, TBA

11/15 vs. Temple, TBA

11/22 at Illinois, TBA

11/29 vs. Mich. State, TBA

12/6 Big 10 Championship

Home games in **bold**.

Omicronicle

An Alumni Publication of the Omicron Chapter of Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity at the Pennsylvania State University
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ALUMNI REPORT

What's the Good if You Don't Try a Few Things?

By Scott Szathmary '98, Board Chairman, Omicron Association Inc.

Brothers, I am pleased to provide a report of our chapter's activities and status as we kick off the 2014-2015 academic year ... **a year in which we encourage you to participate and try a few new things. Why should you participate?**

- Brothers **Bob McHenry '89** and **David Lapinski '77** organized an awesome summer reunion of about 60 brothers and little sisters from the '70s, '80s and early '90s (more on page 3).
- As far as covering our regular expenses, our finances are on solid footing.
- Alumni found cherished football tickets and hotel rooms through our Room & Ticket Program.
- If you drop by the house this fall, you may notice new furniture in the club room and study room (see page 2), new locks, repairs to the front lawn and a mop closet in the back stairs.
- There are some systems in our 80-year-old house that are at the end of their useful life and some new projects we'd like to undertake for the good of the chapter. **We are looking for an infusion of funds to help us invest in some of these larger projects on the capital renovation list**, which is why you have been hearing a lot about our capital campaign (see page 2).
- Our 2013-2014 academic year was busy and productive. In service to our alumni,

we produced two *Omicronicle* newsletters and monthly eLetters and articles hosted on pktomicron.com. In addition, we provided updates to the Facebook crowd at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/pktomicron/>. **Please be sure to "like" our page!**

- The Omicron Educational Foundation continues to offer scholarships, notably through the Struthers Family Phi Kappa Tau Resident Scholarship. The foundation also paid for undergraduates to attend Phi Kappa Tau Leadership Academy run by our national fraternity and provided scholarships to undergraduates based on GPA.
- We continue to be very proud of the performance of our undergraduate chapter. With over 70 active members, we once again have a full house. They are in good standing with the university and have been doing excellent philanthropic work. Partnering with Phi Mu, they raised \$162,749 for THON in 2014.

The Omicron Association Board is nine members strong. They represent only some of the alumni in leadership roles (see the full list on page 3). **We are always looking for others to help us shape the future of the chapter.** Specifically, we'd like to hear more from some of our 2000s and 2010s alumni. If you'd like to help, please contact me at scott_szathmary@yahoo.com or Brother Lapinski at phiktatpsu@aol.com.



It was a reunion so good that we are already talking about next year ...
See page 3 for more.

STATUS OF THE CAMPAIGN

No Denying that Omicron is an Anchor for All (900) of Us

By Robert Kaiser '74, Capital Campaign Committee

The *Preserving Our Tradition, Building Our Future* capital campaign is progressing, and it is our goal to complete the effort by Homecoming of 2014. For more than 90 years, Omicron has been the home, training ground and anchor for over 900 brothers. We lived, played, studied and learned from each other during our years at Penn State. We are proud of our Chapter, our Legacy and our House, and look forward to another 90 years of helping young men mature into solid citizens. To date, \$275,500 has been pledged, and we want to say thank you to the brothers who have stepped

If you can give more to “cover” another brother, please do. If you can’t commit to \$1,000 a year over three years, please give what you can. Do you want to make your **PLEDGE** now? Visit our website at www.pktomicron.com and click on *Make a Pledge* under the *Campaign* tab.

Pay it forward. Our goals are ambitious but achievable WITH YOUR HELP!

At 83 years young, our House was constructed long before the internet, fire suppression systems, expensive gas/electricity and security

needs. Additionally, we own the Hintz Chapter Annex as housing for senior brothers. The living areas and sleeping rooms of these locations require modernizations to

Pledge Amount	Yearly Payment	Bi-Yearly Payment	Quarterly Payment	Monthly Payment
\$15,000	\$5,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$1,250.00	\$416.67
\$12,000	\$4,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$333.33
\$9,000	\$3,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$750.00	\$250.00
\$6,000	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$166.67
\$3,000	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$250.00	\$83.33

forward and made a contribution to the capital campaign. They are recognized on the Honor Roll (on page 4), and without them we would not be where we are today.

NOW, WE NEED 350 ALUMNI TO PLEDGE \$1,000 A YEAR FOR 3 YEARS TO REACH OUR GOAL OF \$1,425,000!

keep Omicron appealing to undergraduates, who have a large selection of modern, affordable and convenient housing options.

Vital components – the “bones and veins” of our facilities – need to be continually renovated or replaced. Imagine the needs for a facility used by over 80 young men eating, sleeping, studying and playing 24/7!

Our Plan
(full description available online)

We have a plan that will take Omicron forward for the next decade and beyond. It was designed to meet the physical plant, living condition and academic needs for today’s and tomorrow’s undergrads. It also improves Omicron’s competitive posture among 49 other fraternities, dormitories and other housing options.

- **Restore Fraternal Mansion - \$178,000**
- **Dining Room - \$65,000**
- **Kitchen/House Mother’s Room - \$224,000**
- **Party Room - \$20,000**
- **Second Floor Bathroom - \$118,000**
- **Sleeping Rooms - \$156,000 (\$6,000 each)**
- **Annex Renovation Project - \$20,000**
- **Additional Bathroom**
- **Heating System Renovations**

What we need now is support from as many alumni as possible. If we are able to accomplish our goals, this should be a once-in-a-lifetime effort that will take care of the house for decades and decades to come.

PLEASE MAKE YOUR PLEDGE ONLINE TODAY AND HELP US SECURE THE FUTURE OF OMICRON!

A Sneak Peek ... Our Campaign Already at Work



The third-floor study room (a.k.a. Medium South) was renovated this summer thanks in large part to contributions to the Omicron Education Foundation as part of our ongoing capital campaign. This is a huge improvement, enabling the chapter to continue to build upon its academic success. Our goal was to create a space that was flexible enough to accommodate both individual/group study and meetings. We also tried to maintain a balance between modern and classic fraternity style. The space will easily accommodate 10-plus individuals for study and even more for group meetings. With over 70 active brothers, this will hopefully meet the demands. Large thanks are due to **Jason Birdsell '99** and **David Lapinski '77** for managing this from concept to completion. See more pictures online where you can post your comments about what you think. And be sure to check it out with your own eyes at Homecoming on Sept. 27.

OMICRON SUMMER REUNION

So Good We'll Be Back Next Year!

You know a reunion has been a success when plans for the next one are already underway. Such is the case with Omicron Chapter's '70s, '80s and '90s reunion which took place in State College the weekend of June 13-14.

During the weekend, we welcomed back more than 50 brothers and little sisters, 20 additional guests and 12 kids. On Friday, several met at the Outdoor Sportsman's Club in neighboring Bellefonte for trapshooting.

On Friday evening, drinks and hors d'oeuvres were served at the house, including delicious crab cakes. Thanks to the impressive catering services of Matt and

Samantha Collins of Happy Valley Home Cookin', we had great food all weekend.



(l-r): Kurt Dodds '88, Don Krumpe, Jim Ward '87 and Bob McHenry '89.

On Saturday, several hit the links for a golf outing while others toured wineries in the area. Saturday's barbeque at the house brought together many brothers, spouses and friends who had not seen each other since college or weddings. Despite the years, they all picked up right where they had left off.

Thanks to all who attended this year. One conversation woven through the weekend was the need to begin planning for next summer's reunion. Plans are underway, and we'll be publishing the date in a future eLetter.



(l-r): Eric Russell '95, Suzanne Russell, Joe Puerzer '93 and Scott Graff.

Campaign Committee

Robert Kaiser 1974
Jason Birdsell 1995
Richard Struthers 1976
Walter Scott 1957
Lee Olsen 1962
Stuart Rosenberg 1986
Dan Bicehouse 1991
Vince Bilosky 1990
Bill O'Neill 1973
Mark Toniati 1973

Board of Directors

David Lapinski 1977
Gary McKown 1975
Robert McHenry 1989
Eric Tarquinio 1998
Scott Szathmary 1998
Jason Birdsell 1999
Andrew Cecere 2004
David Go 2008
Alan Rider 2009

Board of Governors

Edward Dudley 1991
David Lapinski 1977

Educational Foundation Trustees

Walt Scott 1958
David Lapinski 1977
Jens Thorsen 2000
John Mountz 1992

PATIO BRICKS

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.

Brothers Making Headlines

During the 61st National Phi Kappa Tau Convention held in Washington, D.C. this summer, Omicron Brother **Ray Walker '35** was inducted into the Phi Kappa Tau Hall of Fame. Ray joins Omicron Brother **Verne M. Willaman '49** in this prestigious designation. At the age of 102, Ray continues to maintain an active schedule. We are hopeful to invite him back to the house for a celebration of his life and achievements.

This past June, Fox Chapel Golf Club in Fox Chapel, Pa., was home to the Constellation Senior Players Championship — one of the "five major PGA championships for eligible professionals age 50 and over." One Omicron brother had a first-hand view: Brother **Jason Hurwitz '01**, the club's superintendent. For a link to Jason's story, go to www.pktomicron.com.



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 8/22/14). We want to add your name to the list! See page 2 for information on how you can make a gift!

Ray S. Walker '33
Christian L. Siebert Jr. '34
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
William H. Gauger '57
Roy R. Rosenberger '57
Walter P. Scott '57
Frank Sterba '57
Rafael A. Crespo PhD '58
Emanuel Orfanon '58
Richard C. Bosserman '61
Charles O. Drum '61

Vell H. Holcombe '61
Edward S. Boger '62
Patrick C. Kopnicky '62
Leon P. Reitnauer '70
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
Jeffrey Dineman '76
Robert A. Schoppert '76
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 Rosenburg 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
Anthony Lucadamo '94
Jason Birdsell '95
Albert Brocius '95
Christopher Nesselrode '95
Scott Szathmary '95
Andrew Cecere '99
Matt Hudson '05
Alan Rider '05
David Go '06

OMICRON ANNUAL REPORT (7/1/13-6/30/14)

Operations Account

Income		\$ 120,886.25
Chapter Rent	\$ 74,000.00	
Alumni Dues Program	\$ 21,877.00	
Patio Brick	\$ 20,350.00 ¹	
Summer Reunion	\$ 3,475.00 ²	
Other Income	\$ 1,184.25	
Total	\$ 120,866.25	
Expenses		\$ 106,271.61
Repairs	\$ 22,238.35 ³	
Alumni Relations	\$ 20,380.25	
Taxes	\$ 16,284.70	
Capital Projects	\$ 16,240.73 ⁴	
Insurance	\$ 12,806.00	
Upkeep	\$ 8,202.20 ⁵	
Postage	\$ 2,471.39	
Office	\$ 2,467.16	
Furniture	\$ 2,268.00	
Interest	\$ 1,725.83	
Misc.	\$ 1,187.00	
Total	\$ 106,271.61	
Profit/(Loss)		\$ 14,614.64

¹Patio Bricks is income from over 130 members purchasing patio bricks as part of the Front Porch Project. ²Donations from alumni to pay for the summer reunion. ³Repairs include work done on an ongoing basis to keep the chapter house in a safe and code-compliant manner. ⁴Capital Projects include work of a major type for long-term improvements of the chapter house such as the front porch and bathroom renovations. ⁵Upkeep includes maintaining the fire and smoke detectors, sprinkler system, lawn care and other systems.

Investment Account

Balance	7/1/2014	\$ 291,679.15	
Balance	7/1/2013	\$ 277,055.66	
Increase/(Decrease)		\$ 14,623.49	\$ 14,623.49
Total Profit/(Loss)			\$ 29,238.13

The Investment Account is comprised of bonds, mutual fund stocks and certificates of deposit. The intent of the Investment Account is to provide a stable financial base for long-term chapter operations.

Net Worth Status

	7/1/2012	7/1/2013	7/1/2014
Fixed Assets	\$ 596,450.00	\$ 596,450.00	\$ 596,450.00
Reserve Assets	\$ 271,176.44	\$ 277,055.66	\$ 291,679.15
Liquid Assets	\$ 227,340.75	\$ 213,949.69	\$ 208,840.16
Liabilities	\$ 0.00	\$ (62,000.00)	\$ (42,275.83)
Net Worth	\$ 1,094,967.19	\$ 1,025,455.35	\$ 1,054,693.48

Fixed Assets include tax value of the Chapter House and the Annex.

Reserve Assets are not used for normal annual operations.

Liquid Assets includes the funds available for usual operations

Liabilities are a line of credit used to pay for capital projects.

Note: None of the income or expenses reflected in this report include funds from the capital campaign.