

UPCOMING EVENTS

Omicron Summer 2015 Reunion

'70s, '80s and '90s
June 12-13

Mark your calendars if you haven't – the chance to catch up with Omicron Chapter brothers is nearly upon us!

On the weekend of Friday, June 12 Omicron's brothers will be getting together for a reunion that will include multiple activities including trap shooting, golfing and a pig roast over two days at the Chapter House.

This weekend is being organized primarily for alumni from the '70s, '80s and '90s eras, although alumni from any era are more than welcome – and encouraged – to attend.

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 www.pktreunion.eventbrite.com and www.facebook.com/groups/pktomicron.

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
davidclapinski@aol.com

Bob McHenry
ftmchenry@gmail.com

Or go to www.pktreunion.eventbrite.com to RSVP online.

www.pktomicron.com

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A BIG, FAT GREEK ENGAGEMENT

Burnside incorporates Phi Kappa Tau brotherhood into engagement to longtime girlfriend

Brother Chris Burnside knew two things. He knew he wanted to marry his longtime girlfriend and he wanted to somehow involve the old, red-brick house on East Fairmont Avenue and the best friends he's made to this point during his time in Phi Kappa Tau.

So he proposed to Priscilla Marsala at Phi Kappa Tau's house as friends from both his fraternity and Marsala's sorority Gamma Phi Beta looked on on March 22. Burnside did so, of course, after Marsala's father gave his approval.

Marsala – who had walked to the house from her apartment where friends and family members waited at different points on the route with a flower and note from Burnside waited for her – nodded yes. A violin player let loose as the couple embraced.

"I was in a state of total happiness for our future together. It felt surreal," Burnside told Penn State student blog Onward State. "Our college years have really helped us grow into our relationship."



Chris Burnside proposed to Priscilla Marsala in March

"Trying to incorporate Phi Kappa Tau into the proposal is something that I really wanted . . . Our best friends are members of Phi Tau. Since we've been together all of college, her personality has rubbed off on the chapter."

something that I really wanted," Burnside told Onward State. "Both Priscilla and I would agree that our best friends are members of Phi Tau. Since we've been together all of college, her personality has rubbed off on the chapter. She was jokingly given the nickname 'First Lady' while I served as President and was also elected as our 'Sweetheart' this past year."

From the time he spoke with Marsala's father, Burnside began planning the day. Both have been heavily involved in their respective organizations.

Each served on their organizations' executive boards, Marsala as Panhellenic Delegate for Gamma Phi Beta and Burnside as President for Phi Kappa Tau. Both went on to hold positions on the Interfraternity and Panhellenic Councils, too.

Friends since middle school, Burnside and Marsala began dating in high school. Both began their college years at Penn State in 2011.

"Trying to incorporate Phi Kappa Tau into the proposal is

CHAPTER REPORT

Omicron turns in a Top 10 fundraising effort with \$157,780 raised for THON

By Scott Szathmary '98
and Zach Lyons

Phi Kappa Tau continues to make its mark on campus, extend its reach and help uplift others along the way.

With a Top 10 fundraising total for THON coupled with strong classroom performances and the election of a handful of new brothers to key leadership positions, Omicron Chapter continues to thrive.

Coupled with Phi Mu, Omicron Chapter turned in a Top 10 fundraising effort toward THON. The undergrads had another good year of recruitment and placed 10th overall among Greek organizations in THON fundraising with \$157,780.

When the school year concludes, Omicron Chapter will be sending more than 20 graduates into alumni rolls and the real world.

Looking ahead to summer, we will make some significant improvements to the physical plant and hold a reunion that is sure to be memorable. As always, we thank our annual dues program donors and all those who have completed or are following through on Capital Campaign commitments which are making physical plant and scholarship grants possible.

This year, we had brothers traveling all across the globe for spring break adventures. We



had brothers spend their breaks on the warm beaches of Mexico and Florida. Others left cold, icy State College for more cold weather in Canada. Brothers Darrel Dansby, Jay Srinivasan, and David Kerr all visited Brother Connor Greeley in Dublin, Ireland for the St. Patrick's Day Festivities.

March was also a big election month for the chapter. Three of our newest brothers – Robby Drennen, Shaan Sabharwal and Ben Mia – were named Rush Chairs for the fall. These three are coming directly off of their semester of being recruited, and this experience and knowledge will hopefully bring the chapter another extremely strong pledge class.

It was also time to elect a new THON chair for 2016. The honor went to a brother from Spring '13, Jack Rende. Jack has been heavily involved in THON in his two years at Penn State and held a position on the Dancer Relations committee this past year. Brothers Ed Colligon, Ryan Weaver, John Kim and

Connor Greeley will be heading up the 4 THON subcommittees with assistance from brothers from the Fall '14 Pledge Class. THON is a huge project for the house, but we feel that this group of men will help our house continue to rise up the rankings in Greek organizations involved with THON.

We will initiate 14 brothers in the coming weeks and 43 brothers will be living in the chapter house and the senior house in the fall.

March ended with Parents Weekend for our THON partner Phi Mu. The brothers graciously hosted the event for the young women and their parents. It was great to get a chance to meet the parents and to share stories from their glory days of college.

We would be remiss to not congratulate our Brother Chris Burnside. On March 22, Chris proposed to his girlfriend of five years, Priscilla Marsala, on the porch of our fraternity house. We wish them a long and happy life together and we are glad the house could play a part on this glorious day for you.

Our brothers are doing wonderful things on campus and around the world this semester. Stay tuned to this newsletter for more updates on the house, the brothers and their endeavors!

SENIOR PLANS

Here's what a few Omicron seniors have planned after graduation

More than 20 brothers are graduating this semester and here is what a handful of them have planned already. Join us in wishing them good luck as they venture into the next phase of life and keep your eyes out for more profiles in our monthly eLetters!

Chris Burnside Secondary Education Social Studies

Goals/Plans: Commissioning as a 2nd Lt. into the US Army

Phi Tau experience: Being a part of Phi Tau has been a truly great experience. I've met many lifelong friends and look forward to supporting the chapter as an alumnus.

Andrew Cooper Security and Risk Analysis

Goals/Plans: Commissioning into the US Army

Phi Tau experience: Though I made the decision to join this fraternity very late, in the spring of my sophomore year, it was the best decision I have ever made. Seeing how much this house has grown in just the past two years

is incredible, and I can't wait to see what the younger brothers will do.

Dan Halpin Actuarial Science

Goals/Plans: Working for Independence Blue Cross in Philadelphia

Phi Tau experience: One of a kind. Becoming a brother of this fraternity is the best decision I've made in college. This fraternity will always be a home away from home.

Will Hunzeker Security and Risk Analysis

Goals/Plans: Working for KPMG in Washington D.C.

Phi Tau experience: Amazing time here meeting some of the most amazing people who have helped me become the person I am today. The house has grown so much and done so

many positive things since I first joined in the fall of 2011.

Michael McCauley Accounting

Goals/Plans: Working for Grant Thornton in Alexandria, Va.

Phi/Tau experience: One line of text would never do justice the life-changing experiences I've had with the diverse group of friends I've made these past four years as a brother in Phi Kappa Tau.

Harrison Meyer Accounting

Goals/Plans: Working for Deloitte in Parsippany, N.J.

Phi Tau experience: Since I have been a

(Continued on Page 3)

ANNUAL FUND HONOR ROLL

We're \$15,000 shy of our goal, help us get there in the next two months!

Thank you to the following brothers who have supported our annual fund so far this giving year, which started on July 1, 2014. We've set a goal to reach \$37,000 and 175 donors. With only two months left, we've raised \$22,008 from 129 donors, and still have a long way to go. We're counting on you to help us finish the year strong! To make your donation and join these brothers below, visit www.pktomicron.com.

The Hintz Fellows (\$1,000+)

Ray Walker, 1933
H. Mitchell Schmidt, 1946
Robert Murray, 1954
Francis Gansz, 1957
Richard Struthers, 1976

The 408 Club (\$408)

Vell Holcombe, 1961
Robert Kaiser II, 1974
H. Jerry Rose, 1974
Drew Kuruc, 1977
Todd Edward Pardue, 1982
Marc Foremsky, 1989
Jens Thorsen, 1996

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

William Westley Jr., 1952
George Seid, 1953
James Griffiths, 1954
Howard Thompson, 1954
Rafael Crespo Ph.D., 1958
Col. Ronald Wertz, 1958
Robert Miller, 1973
Deacon David Lapinski, 1974
William O'Neill, 1974
Keith Sikora, 1975
Lee F. Burkett, 1976
Kurt Dodds, 1984
Barry Messner, 1984
Nelson R. Fairchild, Jr., 1985
John Messner, 1986
Brian Haley, 1987
Naveed Mughal, 1989
Scott Graff, 1991
Jason Birdsell, 1995

Andrew Cecere, 1999

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

John Schmidt, 1949
John Werner, 1952
Bill Heath, 1954
Laurence Shaheen, 1954
Leroy Varettoni, 1954
Theodore E. Frask, 1955
Barry G. Pifer, 1955
John Drake, 1956
Richard Strickler, 1956
G. Nelson Van Fleet, 1956
Dr. William Gauger, 1957
Walter Scott, 1957
William H. Netzlof, 1958
Robert C. Edgar, 1959
Dr. John Francis Jr., 1959
John Sweeney, 1960
Richard Bosserman, 1961
Michael E. Orlic, 1961
Edward Boger, 1962
Alan Breininger, 1962
Philip Marrie Jr., 1962
Harold Baker, 1963
David F. Campbell, 1965
Dexter V. Hancock, 1965
H. Michael Boyd, 1966
George DeGroft Jr., 1966
Kenneth Crandall, 1967
Dr. Bruce Pettersen, 1967
Robert Byrd, 1969
Neal Halbe, 1969
John Neach, 1970
Randy Schaeffer, 1973
Robert Folwell, 1974

Brian Chodrow, 1976
Jeffrey Dinerman, 1976
James Kremmel Jr., 1976
Gregory Zink, 1976
Brad Federspiel, 1977
John M. Kroft, 1977
Thomas Haulik, 1978
Richard S. Wendler, 1978
Joseph Arnold, 1979
Dr. Frederick Kotalik, 1979
Ludwig Patrick Sharek, 1980
Michael Baldassarre, 1981
Regis Repko, 1982
Thomas Charles Zadan, 1982
Adam Bronstein, 1983
Thomas Heilman II, 1983
Mark W. Sergeant, 1985
William Vernon III, 1985
Robert McHenry, 1986
Philip Marrie III, 1987
Dan Bicehouse, 1991
Michael McGuire, 1991
Nathaniel Smith, 1994
Christopher Nesselrode, 1995
Christopher Reid, 1995
Jonathan Small, 1995
Scott Szathmary, 1995
Jason Harrison, 1996
Jonathan Hazen, 1996
Richard Hoffacker, 1997
Brian McWilliams, 2000
Jason Cook, 2005
David Go, 2006
Michael Hoffacker, 2009

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

Christian Siebert Jr., 1934

Lloyd G. Young, 1950
Charles Naginey, 1951
Henry Johnson III, 1952
Robert Watson, 1952
Robert Navarra, 1958
Robert Bryson, 1961
Clifford W. Freed, 1961
Dr. L. Reed Walker Jr., 1961
Joseph Hogan, 1966
Benjamin T. Hudson, 1974
Lawrence Reitars, 1974
John Hawkins, 1976
John Jacobs, 1976
Harry Robinson, 1979
Edward Smarsh Jr., 1981
Philip Iannuzzi, Jr., Col, USAF (Ret.)
1982
Michael Gillespie, 1986
David Edward Hall, 1989
Francis J. Hoffman, 1989
Bruce Philip McConnell, 1990
Dr. Andrew Shur, 1992
Patrick Walker, 1992
Steven Kovack, 1998
Jesse Anderson, 2001
Bryan Monahan, 2003
Benjamin Goldberger, 2008

Other

Samuel Schaeffer, 1963
Wayne Myers Jr., 1966
Terry P. Kirchner, 1978

Reflects gifts received before April 10th, 2015.

freshman we have doubled the size of our brotherhood and we have continued to make huge pushes on all fronts to improve our house. I hope that everyone that is here and those who will be a part of our house in the future continues to strive to extend the movement started a few years ago.

Kevin Muldoon Supply Chain and Information Systems

Goals/Plans: Working for Cognolink in New York, N.Y.

Phi Tau experience: It's amazing to see how this brotherhood has expanded and progressed over the last four years. I can't wait to see how this fraternity goes in the future and I look forward to working with them as an alum.

Andrew Rider Industrial Engineering

Goals/Plans: Working for Accenture in Washington, DC

Phi Tau experience: Being a part of a great brotherhood that has grown immensely since my freshman year. Really proud of all the hard work and effort from current and soon to be alumni brothers

Rob Rose Management Information Systems

Goals/Plans: Working for KPMG in Philadelphia

Phi Tau experience: It's been an experience that has given me what are sure to be lifelong memories and best friends. I'm excited to see what the future holds for this house and all of the amazing things the younger guys coming

through will do!

Matthew Ross International Politics: National Security

Goals/Plans: Commissioning into the US Army

Phi Tau experience: It's been truly wonderful to be a part of such a tremendously genuine organization. I've made some of my best friends and had some of my best times as an active brother of Phi Kappa Tau and I am certain Phi Tau will continue to be an important part of my life.

Kendall Wilson History

Goals/Plans: Marcus and Millichap in Philadelphia



Phi Kappa Tau

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In this Issue of Omichronicle...

**A Top 10 THON effort, A Chapter Report &
Join Us for our 2015 Reunion!**

CHAPTER HOUSE RENOVATIONS

Kitchen, first floor and Founders Annex to receive upgrades

By David Lapinski '77

One of the rooms dearest to all Omicrons will soon appear radically different.

The kitchen – the source of countless meals over the past 80-plus years – will be renovated this summer. These renovations are needed to keep our facilities safe, maintain efficiency and meet the requirements of feeding more than 40 young men, 24 hours a day.

The walk-in cooler will be replaced by a new cooler/freezer unit attached to the Chapter House's alley side. To access it a door will be cut into the wall near where the current unit now rests.

In addition, a new stove and other equipment will be purchased. The walls and ceiling will be repaired and a special wall board installed. The floor will be replaced with a seamless one specially developed for high-use



industrial kitchens. The House Mother's room, which adjoins the kitchen, will also be renovated to provide adequate dry storage.

The second major project at the Chapter House involves the first floor. The hardwood floors and front staircase steps will be sanded and re-stained. A protective sealant will then be put down to better maintain the condition and appearance of the hardwood.

Next door at the Founders Annex the bathroom will be fully renovated and a second half bathroom will be installed in the basement. In addition to this work, a portion of the basement will be renovated to provide storage for chapter memorabilia such as old composites and other items.

Visit our website, www.pktomicron.com for updates on these ongoing projects.

ALUMNI UPDATES

Alums looking forward to summer reunion

Richard C. Bosserman '61, rbosserman@ccabh.com

I spent three great years at Phi Tau from 1961-'63. I am still working and enjoying life.

Unfortunately, my wife of 46 years died three years ago. After more than two years, I began dating, using all of my techniques of the 60s!

On Friday, I am going to Aruba, for several days of fishing for blue marlin. A wonderful lady is joining me in Aruba. Remember those days, **Vell Holcombe?**!

Philip J. Marrie, III '62, pmarrie@gmail.com

Having a great time in retirement. Three of my family members have been members of Phi Tau. It has provided opportunities these past few years to see and renew relationships with other brothers like Al "2-Beer" Breining, Mike Orlic and Charlie Drum in Florida. I am

sorry to hear about the passing of Denny Miller. Hope to see all of you on a Penn State weekend!

Joe Rubisch '81, jrubisch@charter.net

I am looking forward to seeing everyone this summer at the reunion!

Jason D Sterner '91, jase1144@yahoo.com

On August 16, 2014 Brenda and I welcomed our first child to the family. Matthew Anjelo Sterner was born 7 lbs., 8 oz. In February I moved my insurance sales career to the Ellen T. Nita State Farm Agency in Princeton, N.J. It feels great to be working back in Jersey!

Update other brothers on your status by sending your news to alumninews@affinityconnection.com.