


GAMMA EPSILON ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

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SINFONIA **HARMONY**

SPRING 2014



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Greetings brothers!

My name is Jon Carrothers, I was the ARO for the 2013-2014 school year. I'm a fifth-year senior in music education, am finishing up my student teaching internship this week, and will graduate on May 3. I hope this newsletter finds you well! There has certainly been a lot of excitement around these parts. From the 75th Anniversary celebrations to the Mills Music Mission to general social events, the chapter has been keeping quite busy. This newsletter is certainly not all-inclusive of our events over the past year, but rather makes an attempt at providing highlights and information that should help give a picture of the current state of our chapter. Questions or comments can be directed to myself at carrothers.jon@gmail.com or the new ARO for the 2014-2015 school year, Ben Woodcock, at woodcoc8@msu.edu. I hope you enjoy reading about what our chapter has been up to!

Jon Carrothers

ARO, 2013-2014

FRATERNAL BONDING ACROSS UNIVERSITIES

Lately, our chapter has been particularly conscious of encouraging interaction with brothers from other chapters, both those inside and outside our own province. We've encouraged brothers from our chapter to attend Rituals at other chapters and even had several attend a ceremony for graduation brothers at Beta Iota (Albion College) this past weekend. One of the highlights from this past year was meeting with brothers from Youngstown State University when our football team played them in the fall. Several brothers from their chapter came down on Friday, the evening before the game, and we met them for dinner at Pizza House. Those in the marching band traditionally meet brothers from a visiting band after the game to sing fraternity songs - it's a great way to connect with brothers from across the country!

Events	2014-2015 Officers
<p>Here's a short list of some events the chapter organized over the past year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several brothers assisted the College of Music by stenciling "MSU College of Music" in white paint on new music stands. • The spring probationary class painted the MSU rock as part of the social event they put on for the collegiate brothers, which also consisted of a cookout. • Social Committee organized a bracket challenge for the NCAA tournament, which was won by Anthony "Puddles" Machniak. • The MMM (Mills Music Mission) was a huge success at Haven House, an emergency housing organization, and was put on by the Community Involvement Committee. • Brothers got together many times just to eat dinner and hang - Woody's Oasis was a favorite spot this semester! 	<p>President: Mitchell Raeck</p> <p>Vice President: Madison Chapman</p> <p>Treasurer: Cody Harrell</p> <p>Fraternal Education Officer: Aaron Wright</p> <p>Secretary: Andrew Stables</p> <p>Historian: Brian Whaley</p> <p>Alumni Relations Officer: Ben Woodcock</p> <p>Warden: Cody Harrell</p> <p>Executive Committee-Man-at-Large: Jacob Bender</p> <p>Fraternal Choir Director: Brandon Smith</p> <p>Province Council Representative: Madison Chapman</p> <p>Ritual Director: Mitchell Raeck</p>

75TH ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND

We celebrated the 75th year of being a chapter at MSU on the weekend of April 4-6. Many brothers from across the nation showed up for the events! It was great to see such a large number of alumni, as that really puts the history of our chapter into perspective. It helped show the current collegiate brothers that it's possible to remain connected to the fraternity for life! Following is a brief description of the events that took place.

Friday, April 4

-Alumni Welcome Dinner-

Alumni and current brothers met for a buffet dinner at Hampton Inn, where a block of rooms had been reserved for brothers coming in from out of town.

Saturday, April 5

-Campus Tour-

This part consisted of guided tours of three relatively new parts of campus that those traveling from far away might not have seen yet: the Spartan Stadium press box, renovated Fairchild Theater, and the Eli and Edythe Broad Art Museum. Well, that was the plan at least. The press box tour fell through, so attendees got to see the theater and art museum!

-"When Day is Done" Rehearsal-

Alumni and collegiate brothers alike participated in this rehearsal. The piece was commissioned by the chapter in honor of the memory of Bob Grof, a brother of the chapter who was killed in action in Vietnam. The wonderful work of music was written for brass quintet and male four-part chorus, composed by Joe Spaniola and conducted by Dale Bartlett, two alumnus of the chapter.

-Initiation-

Six members were initiated into the Gamma Epsilon chapter: five collegiate brothers in Joey Swinkey, Jake Steinberger, Ty Santos, Chris Tartalone, and Nate Sampson; and an honorary member in George Grof, brother by blood of

Bob Grof. The Ritual was well attended by collegiate and alumni brothers of the Gamma Epsilon chapter as well as brothers from other chapters in the province!

-75th Anniversary Banquet-

The banquet, a formal affair held in the Lincoln Room of the Kellogg Center, served as a chance for brothers, their families and/or significant others to chat and bond over a fine dinner. The banquet was followed by an informal get-together in the State Room Lounge where everyone could continue chatting into the late evening.

-Alumni Pinning Ceremony-

The pinning ceremony, held during the banquet, recognized brothers who had reached the 10-, 25-, and 50-year alumni mark. The brothers were given a pin corresponding to their respective year and had a chance to introduce themselves and their family.

Sunday, April 6

-75th Anniversary Concert-

This concert, consisting entirely of music written by American composers, was filled with a variety of performances such as a trombone choir, a clarinet choir, and a jazz combo, to name a few. The performance culminated in the premiere of "When Day is Done" and was a terrific way to end the exciting weekend.

75TH ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND



A HUGE thanks goes to Joe Levine and Ben Woodcock for everything they did in organizing the weekend! It absolutely would not have been such a huge success without their dedicated work.