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## ON THE WEB

### Are You Not Receiving Our Monthly e-Letter?

If you're not currently receiving our monthly e-Letter that means that we do not have your email address in our database! You can update your email address (and all your other information) by simply logging in to our website at [www.alphazetapsu.com](http://www.alphazetapsu.com) and clicking 'Edit Info' at the top of the page.

If you haven't logged into our site before, you will need to register using your Member ID found above your name and address on this newsletter. Simply follow the steps below.

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1. Visit [www.alphazetapsu.com](http://www.alphazetapsu.com).
2. Click on the 'First Time Login' link on the home page.
3. Enter your last name.
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6. Click on 'Edit Info' to update your email and other information.

Our monthly e-Letter contains all the latest news on what's happening with alumni and undergraduates, details on upcoming events, photos from recent get-togethers and more! Update your email address online today to ensure you receive our next letter!

# MORRILL MESSENGER

Morrill Chapter of The Fraternity of Alpha Zeta  
Penn State • November 2008



## ALUMNI REPORT

### \$10,000 Rent Deficit with Corporation Has Been Erased *Living and Dining Room Improvements Continue*

By Art Keen '68

We have a very energetic brotherhood and sisterhood at Alpha Zeta. The \$10,000 rent deficit with corporation has been erased. The undergraduate members have refinished the living and dining room floors and are now wallpapering the rooms. They have chosen very attractive wallpaper. They have also purchased new furniture for the living room.

This summer the corporation painted the north side of the house (the side toward Rec Hall.). Next year we plan to finish painting the outside of the house when we paint the rear and south sides. We have been slowly reducing our outstanding debt with PNC Bank.

The Alpha Zeta Charitable Trust has received a number of recent donations. As a result of these donations we should be able to increase our annual scholarships from \$2,000 to \$2,500. Many of the donations were

memorials for recently deceased Alpha Zeta members: **Donald W. Linvill '50**, **Milton B. Davis '50** and **Dr. James Holt '59**. If you wish to honor these deceased members with a memorial to the Trust, please send your check to: The Alpha Zeta Charitable Trust, c/o Arthur H. Keen, 317 College Ave., Lancaster, PA 17603. Donations to the Alpha Zeta Charitable Trust are tax deductible.

The Alpha Zeta and the Lindsay Hogg and Dorothy Dennis Scholarships were able to award close to \$5,000 this year. These scholarships are administered by the university.

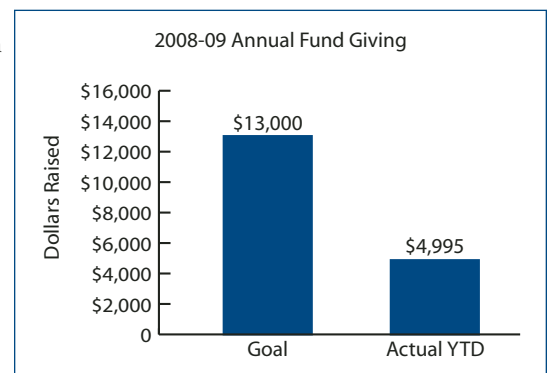
If you have any questions or comments, you may reach me at the address mentioned above or at 800-669-8795 or [bismoline@bismoline.com](mailto:bismoline@bismoline.com).

## ANNUAL FUND UPDATE

### A Great Start to the New Giving Year *Almost \$5,000 Raised in First Two Months*

Thanks to donors we are proud to announce that we have received \$4,995 in gifts to the annual fund since the giving year began on September 1. Help us to keep the momentum going and reach our goal of \$13,000 by making a donation online at [www.alphazetapsu.com](http://www.alphazetapsu.com) or by calling our toll-free line at 800-975-6699.

For the 2008-09 giving year, we met our goal of \$12,000 in annual fund donations. We thank all of our dedicated members who choose to support Alpha Zeta through a financial gift each year.



## UNDERGRADUATE REPORT

### The Brotherhood is Proud to Welcome Nine New Members

#### *Excitement about Chapter House Improvements Continues*

In fall 2007, the brotherhood was pleased to welcome **Travis Book, Shane Brenneman** and **George Hanson** as new members. Then in spring of 2008, six more members joined Alpha Zeta and we welcomed **Sara Gutshall, David Harwick, Deidre Hepler, Kristin Klohonatz, Clarese Neill** and **Andrew Roth**.

***“The brotherhood continues to identify projects to preserve the historical significance and beauty of the home of Alpha Zeta Fraternity at Penn State”***

We are proud of the fact that two of our spring 2008 members are legacies. Both David Harwick's sister, **Katie Harwick Flinchbaugh '05** and Andrew Roth's father, **Gregory Roth '79**, are alumni of Alpha Zeta. Each of our nine new members brings a background of agriculture and a new opportunity for leadership to the house.

Our goal of the rush period for this fall was to attract the same kind of quality members of our fall and spring classes.

Because of the high number of graduating seniors in the next two semesters, each member of the brotherhood needs to contribute to our rush program. Some of the new members, along with Chancellor Mark Lowery, organized summer activities with incoming freshmen. For the past couple of years, our fall rush program has consisted of a welcome-back picnic, movie and game nights, football games and other fun activities, such as go-karting or bowling. A favorite for both the rushees and the brotherhood is our fall hayride. We hope to continue these activities, as they seem to go over very well with prospective members. It is our hope that our most recent new members will bring fresh ideas and new ways to recruit to AZ.

Along with rush, all members of the brotherhood are excited about the improvements made to the Morrill Chapter house with support from the Alpha Zeta Corporation Board. During spring break, House Manager Dan Frechen conducted several improvement projects to upgrade the aesthetics of the first floor. First, the dining and living room floors were re-finished and new light fixtures were installed in the

dining area. Over the summer, the aging wallpaper was replaced to complete the new look of the timeless Morrill Chapter house. The brotherhood continues to identify projects to preserve the historical significance and beauty of the home of Alpha Zeta Fraternity at Penn State.

Three of our members, brothers **Nathan Boyle** and **Joe Leslie** along with sister **Lisa Rankin** attended the National Agricultural Leadership Conference held at the Townshend Chapter of Alpha Zeta at Ohio State University. These students participated in workshops and seminars about professional development and leadership. By interacting with other Alpha Zeta members, Nathan, Joe and Lisa came back to Penn State with ideas to improve our chapter. We hope to be able to send members to the 2009 conference in North Carolina.

It's also important to recognize how well rounded our members are and how many other activities our members are involved in. We're proud to have members who are involved in organizations such as the AG Student Council, Coaly Society, Collegiate FFA and Students for the Responsible Use of Animals.

## IN MEMORY

### In Memory of Brother Don Linvill '50

#### *Tribute Gift Made to AZ Scholarship Trust in His Name*

*By Jim Case '50*

In a recent letter I received from Libbie Linvill, I learned that Brother **Don “Sweepy” Linvill '50** died on August 16, 2008. He became ill with pancreatitis in April and except for ten days at home, he spent most of his time since then in hospitals and nursing homes.

Don was a 1950 graduate in

Agronomy and was an active member of the Ag Student Council. Always upbeat, he kept the brothers at the Alpha Zeta house in cheerful spirits with his humor and antics.

I phoned Libbie to extend an expression of sympathy from the brothers of Alpha Zeta. She suggested that those so

inclined could send memorial tribute gifts to the Alpha Zeta Charitable Trust for scholarships. Therefore, on behalf of the class of 1950 and friends, I have sent \$100 to the trust in Don's memory from our newsletter fund. Our deepest sympathy is expressed to Don's family.

Those wishing to make gifts in Don's memory should make checks payable to the **Alpha Zeta Charitable Trust**. They can be mailed to: Arthur H. Keen, 317 College Ave., Lancaster, PA 17603.

## UNDERGRADUATE PROFILE

### Junior Lisa Rankin Prepares to Study in London Next Semester

*“Alpha Zeta has Improved Every Aspect of My College Experience”*

*Lisa Rankin, a junior majoring in Agribusiness Management who will be studying abroad in London next semester, tells how Alpha Zeta has improved her collegiate experience.*

#### Where are you from (hometown)?

Lancaster, Pennsylvania

#### Why did you choose to go to Penn State?

I chose to come to Penn State because your options are limitless here.

#### Why did you join the Greek system?

I joined the Greek System because my roommate introduced me to the members of Alpha Zeta. The members of the Alpha Zeta here at Penn State are like family.

#### Why did you choose Alpha Zeta?

I instantly fell in love with the people that shared an interest in agriculture as I do

#### How has being in a fraternity improved your college experience?

Alpha Zeta has improved every aspect of my college experience - everything from networking, to academics, to meeting my best friends.

#### What is your favorite memory from the fraternity?

My favorite memory is representing Alpha Zeta in Penn State's Dance Marathon, "THON", the 46 hour dance marathon where the dancer must stay on their feet at all times. It raised over \$6 million to contribute towards pediatric cancer research this past year. The brothers and sisters of AZ were there to cheer me on every step of the way.

#### What else are you involved in (extracurricular activities, employment etc.)?

I am a teaching assistant for Dr. Theodore Alter, vice president of the PSU National

AgriMarketing Association, vice president of the Coaly Honorary Society and treasurer of the PSU Collegiate Farm Bureau.

#### Where are you studying abroad next semester?

University of Reading in Reading, England (20-minute train ride from downtown London).

#### What are you most looking forward to?

I am looking forward to learning about agriculture in another country.

#### What do you want to do after graduation?

I am hoping to attend Law school.

## ALUMNI UPDATES

### '50s

#### James Case '50

(80 Crescent Hill Rd., Pittsford, NY 14534-2429; jcase4@rochester.rr.com) We have four married children, 13 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren with the probability of many more to come.

### '60s

#### Frederic Rickett '61

(12521 Easy Street, Chester, VA 23831; mountainqi@aol.com) After finishing up my PhD in biochemistry at PSU, I worked at American Tobacco in the research department near Richmond, VA for about 30 years. After retiring early I taught chemistry at a local community college for five years. Then Pam and I started building our retirement home in the mountains of western Virginia near Lexington. After eight years of working on it we are almost ready to move in. We have three grown children. Our daughter and son-in-law live in St. Paul, MN; our son and daughter-in-law live in Wheaton, IL; and our youngest

son lives and teaches in Shanghai, China. So, we do some travelling these days. I am still actively involved in playing my horn in a brass ensemble that I organized and also play with the local orchestra. We especially enjoy the country living and support local efforts for locally grown produce and meat on the many small farms in our area.

#### Gary Minor '63

(1124 Williamsburg Lane, Keller, TX 76248-5239; aminoraffair@verizon.net) My wife and I moved to Fort Worth, TX after 33 years in Austin so we could get closer to our family. We have three children and four grandkids. We also still have a small car dealership in Austin and road warrior four days a week. We travel a lot and frequently visit Cabo San Lucas for sport fishing. I also avidly tune in to PSU football.

#### Richard L. Rein '63

(811 Kent Dr., Mechanicsburg, PA 17050-2211; reinpsu63@comcast.net) I retired as a Navy civilian employee in 1999 and then worked for years with a contractor supporting some of the same Navy

projects. I retired fully in 2004. I enjoy PSU football weekends in the RV lot with my wife, my daughter's family with two grandsons and others. We recently doubled the grandbaby count with the arrival of my son's twin girls this August.

### '70s

#### Curt Harler III '72

(12936 Falling Water, Strongsville, OH 44136-4307; curt@curtharler.com) **Alan Wood '71** and his wife Judy joined my wife Margie and I on a trip to Machu Pichu, the Ecuadorian Amazon and the Galapagos. We also visited the equator.



Brothers **Curt Harler '72** and **Alan Wood '71** celebrate "surviving" their hike on the Inca Trail this past July-August.)

## TESTIMONIAL

### "I've Been Proud Over the Years of the Great Reputation of Morrill Chapter"

#### Cook Chapter Member Reveals Why He Supports AZ

By John E. Baylor

As a member of the Rutgers University class of '44, I was honored to be inducted into the Cook chapter of AZ before being called into military service in 1942. Upon returning from service in 1946, I was asked to assist in the reorganization of Cook chapter and served in leadership roles during my remaining days at RU.

Once an AZ member, always an AZ member - and I'm proud to be one. As a staff member at Penn State from 1957 to 1983, I was in adult education (Extension Forage Specialist) and had limited contact with undergraduate students. One of my pleasant moments each year was a visit from new Morrill Chapter pledges seeking conversation. On a few occasions since retirement, I've had pleasant visits at home from AZ pledges, both young men and young ladies.

Obviously, I'm still Cook chapter and I often inform new pledges because they were not familiar with it. However, I've been proud over the years of the great reputation of Morrill Chapter on campus.

***"Once an AZ member, always an AZ member – and I'm proud to be one."***

I continue to support AZ fraternity nationally and while I am a very infrequent visitor to your house on campus, I continue to be proud of you and AZ and will continue to support your efforts to the extent that I can. Keep up the good work.

## BROTHERS IN PRINT

### John Cairns '44 to Publish Autobiography

Brother **John Cairns '44** recently submitted this letter to share his recent accomplishments as well as some old memories from his days in the AZ house.

Dear Brothers,

I am blessed that I get invitations to publish at 85. At AZ in 1940 if anyone had told me I would be publishing anything at anytime, I would have doubled over laughing. I am now on the first draft of chapter 32 of my autobiography, available free on my web site ([www.johncairns.net](http://www.johncairns.net)). I have two chapters in a book on bio-terrorism and the editors kindly sent me a PDF of the first chapter, which should be on the web site soon. I also recently published a commentary in the Virginia Tech Research Magazine's special issue on the environment. I remember listening to FDR announce on the radio that Japan had attacked Pearl Harbor in the AZ common room. Those were good days despite WWII.

Warm Regards,  
**John Cairns**

Brothers **Curt Harler '72** and **Alan Wood '71** took a trip to Machu Picchu, the Ecuadorian Amazon and the Galapagos this past summer. Submit photos of your recent adventures at [www.alphazetapsu.com](http://www.alphazetapsu.com)!



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**Penn State University**

**Alpha Zeta**



*Happening Inside!*

***Excitement about House Improvements Continue...Find Out What's Been Happening Inside!***

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