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## ANNUAL MEETING

All alumni are invited to attend the next annual meeting on **March 29**. We will begin at 11:30 a.m. with the annual meeting followed by lunch, an update from the active chapter and the corporation board meeting. Please refer to page 3 for more details and an RSVP form. We look forward to seeing you later this month!

## BLUE-WHITE

**Blue White Weekend**  
**April 11-13, 2014**

## IN THE NEWS

Do you know a member of Morrill Chapter who has been in the news recently? Send story ideas or links to online articles to alumna **Emily Caldwell** (ecaldwell718@gmail.com). We want to share your successes with the brotherhood!

## ALUMNI BOARD

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# MORRILL MESSENGER

*Morrill Chapter of The Fraternity of Alpha Zeta  
Penn State • www.alphazetapsu.com • March 2014*



## THON UPDATE

### Alpha Zeta Celebrates After Record-Breaking THON

**Chapter Brings in \$11,855.31 FOR THE KIDS**

*By Rebecca Shaw*

On Sunday, February 23, 2014, the Penn State IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon (THON) delivered another record-breaking total of \$13,343,517.33 for the Four Diamonds Fund. This incredible amount of money raised goes to show the amount of work representing months of organizing and a year full of fundraising that students put into the event. Through our own fundraising efforts, Alpha Zeta brought in \$11,855.31 toward the final total.

Sisters Jillian Gordon and Taylor Young danced for 46 hours to represent Alpha Zeta during THON 2014, held in the Bryce Jordan Center from Friday, February 21, at 6:00 p.m. until Sunday, February 23, at 4:00 p.m. When asked to reflect on their experience at THON, they both commented on the motivation that the Kemberlings, Alpha Zeta's Four Diamonds/THON family, provided them.

"I knew being a dancer was going to be amazing. Doing it for the kids is powerful enough, but having the Kemberlings down there with us and experiencing it with them made it unforgettable," Gordon said.

"Being a dancer was an experience that nothing can compare to," Young adds. "Having the inspiration of our THON family and seeing how happy and thankful they were for what we've done ... that's how I made it 46 hours."

The fraternity will begin fundraising for THON 2015 during the 2014 fall semester. Be sure to consider donating to this amazing cause!



*Alpha Zeta THON dancers Taylor Young (left) and Jillian Gordon on the floor at the BJC*

## ALUMNI PROFILE

### AZ Alum Remains Connected from Hawaii

**Meet Dr. Richard Criley '62**

*By Emily Caldwell*

Over the years, **Dr. Richard Criley '62** has been a driving force of continuing communications with several of his Alpha Zeta brothers. Since his time in the house, Criley has compiled and sent an annual newsletter to the class of 1962. The mailing list has also grown to include a few other graduates from the 1961 and 1963 classes.

"I always took good notes in class, especially when it came time to study," Criley

*Continued on Page 2*



*Criley enjoys the views of Mt. Hood, Oregon, last fall during the Western Region International Plant Propagator's Society annual meeting.*

says. “So starting the newsletter was a good fit. I’ve kept it going for 50 years.”

Criley relied on updates from his fellow brothers, having as many as 17 or 18 people contribute to it throughout the decades.

“We had bits of news from the brotherhood,” he says. “First we had announcements of children and now have grandchildren and great-children arrivals. I think it’s great, and I really hope other classes will start to do it.”

In addition to his communication efforts, Criley has been a generous supporter of the annual fund and capital campaigns.

### Criley’s Career

Fellow ’62 classmate **Frank Madden** commented, “Dick Criley was one of the top academic graduates in our class and continued that path of excellence for the past 50 years plus.”

Criley graduated from Elizabethtown High School in Lancaster County, Pa. He held a part-time job with a local florist, which is what led him to study horticulture at Penn State. He served as both secretary and president for Penn State’s Horticulture Club and led the club’s annual show. After receiving both a bachelor’s degree and master’s degree at Penn State, he accepted an assistantship at University of California, Los Angeles, where he earned a Ph.D. In 1968, he became a professor at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. He retired in 2012 from his first and only job. Though technically his status is professor emeritus, Criley says, “I haven’t really found retirement yet.”



*Criley inspects the bougainvillea plants at the University of Hawaii campus.*

He remains active in the International Society for Horticultural Science, having served as the chair of the Ornamentals Section and chair of the Executive Committee. In 2002, he was presented the Alex Laurie Award for Floricultural Research by the Society of American Florists. He was named a Fellow of the American Society for Horticultural Science in 1992. He says he also still teaches an occasional course, and he is involved in setting up a symposium at the International Horticultural Congress in Brisbane, Australia this August.

### Memories from Alpha Zeta

Criley traces much of his career success to a good foundation in education and classmates who pushed him to succeed. He says his fellow Alpha Zeta brothers were very supportive of his role in the horticulture clubs and often used his expertise for plant-related displays at house functions.

One particularly fond memory for him was a cross-country road trip he took with **Glen Zepp ’60** and **Dave Horne**. The trio traveled to Seattle World’s Fair for a Horticulture Society event.

“We camped out at a bunch of places along the way,” Criley says.

“It was such a great experience and it was a lot of fun to experience it with my brothers.”

The tradition of throwing an engaged brother into Whipple Dam was alive and well back then too, Criley says. Another tradition was that if a brother had made it through to his senior year without becoming pinned or engaged, he got taken in anyway.

Criley was thrown into Spring Creek instead, where he unfortunately lost his class ring.

“I remember **Bob Gilmore** was taken, and it took eight or nine people just to get him out of the house!” Criley laughs.

### Pursuing a Passion for Gymnastics

Criley’s close proximity to Rec Hall during his time at Alpha Zeta allowed him to continue to pursue another of his passions in life – gymnastics.

“It was really great to be able to walk out of the back door to Rec Hall, practice and then run back to the house and get back to studying,” he says.

Some of the other brothers became involved, as well, serving as team managers and making money by selling concessions during meets.

Criley competed throughout his time at Penn State and then became involved with the gymnastics team at UCLA. He assisted Coach Art Shurlock in running competitions and helping with athlete training. Combining his love of the sport with writing, Criley began contributing to the *Modern Gymnast* magazine, for which he covered the 1972, 1976 and 1984 Olympics and several World Championships as well as numerous NCAA championships.

After he accepted the job in Hawaii, he became the gymnastics coach in 1973 and served the team until it was discontinued at the university in 1976. In the 1980s, he began a lengthy career of judging sports acrobatics, including many national and world championships.

His knowledge and professionalism for the sport led him to serve on the board of directors of the United States Sports Acrobatics Federation for 25 years. The organization was founded in 1975, and Criley helped develop its initial constitution and served in various officerships. The name changed in the 1990s to the United States Sports Acrobatics. He also became an international judge and chair of the International Technical Committee.

Criley traveled back to State College in April 2013 to honor Gene Wettstone, a Penn State coach who was a crucial part of his gymnastics career. Wettstone passed away a few weeks later in July 2013, shortly after turning 100 years old.

While on campus, he was stopped in to see Dear Old Alpha Zeta and visit with the current actives.

### Advice for the Actives

When asked about advice he has for current students, Criley emphasized the importance of making and keeping connections.

“Network as much as you can before graduating,” he says. “Get to know the people in your career who can help lead you to a good job. And keep in touch with your fellow classmates.”

Criley can be reached at [criley@hawaii.edu](mailto:criley@hawaii.edu).

# THE ALUMNI EXPERIENCE

## eHarmony Has Nothing on Alpha Zeta!

In honor of this past Valentine's Day, we reached out to several couples who met at Alpha Zeta and asked them to share their first memories with their significant others. Here are a few responses that reveal how closely the "how they met" and "first date" responses match! To read the full article, go to [www.alphazetapsu.com](http://www.alphazetapsu.com).

### James & Janelle (Hartzell) Hoffman

Q. *What do you like best or most appreciate about your spouse?*

Janelle: He can always make me laugh.

James: Her ability to make me laugh, her understanding and being able to lift me up when I need it sometimes ... not to mention knocking me down a peg now and then.

### Joe & Amy (Yeiser, soon-to-be) Leslie

Q. *What is something AZ related that you're looking forward to on your wedding day?*

Amy: Having my brothers sing "Sweetheart of Alpha Zeta" to me!

Joe: Celebrating with AZ brothers and sisters, singing and dancing to our favorite songs.



### Doug & Raechel (Kilgore) Sattazahn

Q. *Describe what you remember from your first official date.*

Raechel: Both of us had spent some time at the house that fall and got to know many of the brothers and sisters there. They invited us to the formal. Each of us had gone to the Dairy Science Club formal the weekend before stag, but Doug must've mustered up the courage to ask me to the AZ formal the next weekend. The formal was fun, although I do remember feeling very young. We were some of the only freshmen there.

Doug: AZ Winter Formal 2003.

I remember thinking we made a good couple. It was when I knew this was going to be something good.

### Joe & Jessica (Rose) Spangler

Q. *What would your spouse say is the worst habit you picked up from your days at AZ?*

Jessica: I know [Joe] wishes I would've picked up some of Mike Woods' recipes. The worst habit I picked up in college was my

need to be super organized, but that's more contributed to taking way too many classes at one time.

Joe: Eating deep-fried food.

### John & Erin (Munger) Stinavage

Q. *What do you like best or most appreciate about your spouse?*

Erin: He is very helpful with my parents' dairy farm and how he works extra to make sure we have enough firewood for the winter or if we need extra money. (Thank you, honey!)

John: She has given me two beautiful kids (Cameron and Kendall).

### Jason & Christina (Pettersson) Wolfe

Q. *Describe what you remember from your first official date.*

Christina: He pestered me for long enough that I finally agreed to a date. Our first date was for pizza. Then he took me to meet his family, and I fell hook, line and sinker.

Jason: We went to Brothers Pizza for our official first date. It only took her another couple weeks to convince me that we should make it an official couple. The prospects of marrying a future Ph.D. and retiring in five years sold me.



## Alpha Zeta Spring Annual Meeting- March 29, 2014

**Time: 11:30 a.m.; Luncheon: 12:30 p.m.**

AZ will be holding its Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 29, 2014, at 11:30 a.m. at the fraternity house. In the meeting, the board will review corporation activities, house improvements, hold elections and review all finances. We will also use this as a social opportunity to get together and reconnect the alums with the active chapter. All alumni are welcome to attend the meeting. Please contact Art Keen at [artkeen@verizon.net](mailto:artkeen@verizon.net) if you'd like to join us.

**Cost: \$15 per person** # in my party: \_\_\_\_\_ I would like to sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ undergraduate meal(s)

Total meals (self, guest and undergraduate sponsorships) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15 = TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grad Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return this form to:**  
Art Keen, 317 College Ave., Lancaster, PA 17603

**You can also RSVP to Art by calling  
800-669-8795 or by emailing [artkeen@verizon.net](mailto:artkeen@verizon.net).**

## ANNUAL FUND UPDATE

### We're Over Half Way There

#### Three Months to Go ... Will You Help Us Meet Our Goal?

It takes only a few minutes of reading about the accomplishments of our undergraduates and alumni to understand that setting a goal is the first step in doing good things. Whether it is THON, awards at the Junior Holstein convention or a happy marriage, Alpha Zetans are changing the world and reaching their goals.

With your help, we can continue to support the efforts of our active chapter and alumni. In June 2013, we set a goal of \$30,000 for this year's annual fund. As of March 4, 2014, we have received \$17,340



from alumni ... 57.80% of our goal. Thank you to those who have made a contribution. You can find an honor roll of donors on our website. We are a little over half way there. Can we count on your help?

Your gifts will help us replace the front walkway, repair the porch doors and provide opportunities for alumni to stay connected.

To make a gift, go to [www.alphazetapsu.com](http://www.alphazetapsu.com) and click "Donate" in the upper right-hand corner of the home page. You can also send a check to Alpha Zeta Penn State, Alumni Relations Processing Center, P.O. Box 7007, Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007. Or you can call (800) 975-6699.

As we look ahead to reaching our goals for 2014, we look forward to hearing from you.

## ACTIVE CHAPTER UPDATE

### Congratulations to Junior Holstein Members Sara Kitchen & Michael Rush

Alpha Zetans Sara Kitchen and Michael Rush were the recipients of several awards at the recent Pennsylvania Junior Holstein Convention held in State College, Pa.

Both Kitchen and Rush were named Senior Division Distinguished Junior Members. Kitchen was also a member of the winning Senior Division Dairy Bowl Team from Northumberland/Montour Counties. Their team was coached by

Kitchen's mother, Dr. Pat Kitchen, and Alpha Zeta alum, [Randy Wolfe](#).

Kitchen also took third in the Senior Division Prepared Speech Contest. Rush won the Senior Division Extemporaneous Speech Contest and took second in the Senior Division Dairy Jeopardy Contest.

*Alpha Zeta winners, Sara Kitchen (back, second from left) and Michael Rush*



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  - One Alum Enjoys a Life of Flowers & Gymnastics

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