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# MORRILL MESSENGER

Morrill Chapter of The Fraternity of Alpha Zeta  
Penn State • [www.alphazetapsu.com](http://www.alphazetapsu.com)  
• October 2015



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### 2015 Alpha Zeta Fall Reunion

AZ Family and Friends,  
We're pleased to invite you all  
to our annual Fall Reunion!

**When:** 11:30 a.m., Saturday,  
November 14th

**Where:** Yoder's Restaurant  
14 South Tower Road  
New Holland, Pa. 17557

**What:** A family-style meal will  
be served at 12:30 p.m.

Please RSVP by November 1st  
to Bob and Jane Pepple  
[jpepple69@gmail.com](mailto:jpepple69@gmail.com) or  
**610 932-3975**

### Centennial Celebration *Alpha Zeta turns 100 in 2016!*

Join us on **April 23, 2016** for a  
specially planned event!

See the inserted flyer or go to  
[www.alphazetapsu.com/centennial](http://www.alphazetapsu.com/centennial)  
for more details and to  
register!

### Visit Us Online:



[www.alphazetapsu.com](http://www.alphazetapsu.com)

## ALPHA ZETA FAMILY MATTERS

### A history of Alpha Zeta's most famous family

#### Four Generations of Seipts have made their way through AZ

Of the acres and acres of farmland that stretch across Eastern Pennsylvania's flat, fertile expanse, hundreds have been nurtured by Alpha Zeta's most famous family.

The Seipts have toiled in the dirt, labored in the crop fields and tended to livestock for generations – four of which honed their skills as members of Alpha Zeta's Morrill Chapter. It's a pedigree that has been respected and revered by each Seipt that's found his way past the proud white colonnades and through the doors of the stately red brick house on Burrowes St.

"Nine of us have gone through the fraternity house," **Fred Seipt '56** says, remembering stories his father Wilbur ('24) would tell about the early days of AZ and how they influenced his own decision to pledge. "My dad was all Penn State. My brother and I both, I don't think we had any other choices. But I was happy that I joined Alpha Zeta."

Fred and his older brother **Don ('50)** raised third-generation Alpha Zetans. Fred's sons – **Vernon ('79)**, **Matthew ('81)** and **Bill ('88)** – along with Don's son – **Doug ('80)** – all took early interests in agriculture growing up on their fathers' farms. They made easy calls to join AZ after following in their grandfather Wilbur's footsteps.

"It was certainly not a requirement in the family," Vernon says with a laugh. "But I think my predecessors had a high opinion of Alpha Zeta having been members and coming through



DONALD V. SEIPT  
President, Agricultural Student Council



FRED SEIPT

*"Nine of us have  
gone through the  
fraternity house,"*

*–Fred Seipt '56*

that part of the Greek system. It was an easy decision for me."

So was his decision to return home to help Fred after his graduation from Penn State. Like Vernon, his younger brothers Matthew and Bill helped Fred grow the family business – Freddy Hill Farms in Lansdale.

What started out as a dairy farm derived from Wilbur's Towamencin Farm, quickly became a destination spot for homemade ice cream. Batting cages, two miniature golf courses, a pro shop, driving range and miniature zoo are all under the Freddy Hill Farms umbrella today.

And it's that time of year when Fred and his sons get busy with cornstalk mazes, pumpkin patch tours and hayrides, too.

Place a call to Freddy Hill Farms and whoever answers will tell you – "One of the Seipt boys is around here somewhere."

"It's developed into so much more," Fred says, attributing

his affable management style to his time in Alpha Zeta. "The camaraderie at the time, it's all part of fraternity life and I think there are good things to be said about it. I'm happy to have been there and gone through that and obviously my three sons were probably influenced by me a little bit, what can I say?"

Don proudly lists himself as a "retired dairy farmer" on his Facebook profile. Doug spends his days doing what his dad and granddad did,

*–continued on Page 2*

## CHAPTER HOUSE UPDATES

### Be a part of Alpha Zeta's lasting history: Engrave your name on the AZ front walkway!

Alpha Zeta Corporation Board Vice President and Furnishings Chair Dan Frechen led an effort this summer to give the Alpha Zeta house a facelift, as part of the ongoing effort preparing for the Centennial Celebration on April 23, 2016.

Brother Frechen's project included replacing the front walkway and landing with compressed concrete pavers, updating



the brick walls in front of the house and renovating the porch stairs. What's most exciting about this project is that he's offering you the chance to participate!

Alumni can purchase a commemorative paver to have engraved and featured as part of



the front walkway. Read on for different options to this offering. Place your order by January 29, 2016 in order to take advantage of these prices. After that date, pavers will still be available for purchase with an additional \$35 installation fee.

Please use the included order form to place your order or you can go to [www.alphazetapsu.2stayconnected.com/walkway](http://www.alphazetapsu.2stayconnected.com/walkway) for a Q&A and more information!

## ALPHA ZETA FAMILY MATTERS (CONTINUED)

—continued from page 1

too. His son Tim ('13) recently rejoined the family business in Easton after becoming the second fourth-generation Alpha Zetan from the Seipt Family, the first being his cousin, **Bryant Hlavaty ('04)**.

"Alpha Zeta has been a home to my family for generations," Tim said in his senior profile. "I was ... privileged to call it home, and now it will forever be my home. I knew that the connections and the friendships that were made at AZ will last a lifetime. AZ made my college career one that I will never forget, and for that, I couldn't be more grateful."

Although Fred says he's unsure why the family patriarch Wilbur joined AZ, his reasons were simple. Wilbur used to tell stories about his time in the fraternity and would go visit friends from his college days.

When Fred got to Penn State in the early 50's, he was armed with his dad's fond memories and quickly joined a handful of ag clubs and decided easily on a major.

"They called it dairy husbandry then, now it's dairy science," he says.

Vernon did the same, finding out early he had a passion for judging events as a member of the dairy science club. He insists he kept an open mind and looked at other ag groups – notably DTS

### Seipt Family Tree

**Wilbur Seipt ('24)**

**Don Seipt ('50)**

**W. Douglas ('80)**

**Tim ('13)**

**Fred ('56) – Joanne**

**Vernon ('79)**

**Matthew ('81)**

**William ('88)**

**Bryant Hlavaty**  
(cousin, '04)

and – but settled on Alpha Zeta after meeting a few brothers.

"I think AZ was a nice alternative certainly to dorm life," Vernon says. "And I got to intermix and intermingle with like-minded ag majors, which in the dorms, you wouldn't have necessarily had those around. You might've come across one or two on your way by on your floor or in your building, but I think AZ also helped out with leadership development."

Vernon was president of AZ for a year and has continued to keep tabs on his fellow Alpha Zetans. Fred, now 81, doesn't use his season football tickets as much as he used to but Vernon, Matthew, Bill and their families do.

They've all visited the house within the last decade and have made charitable gifts of more than \$3,000 to help support Alpha Zeta initiatives, but Fred is quick to say he'd like to get back more often.

He might have another reason to in the near future as a Seipt cousin is currently pledging AZ, continuing the legacy Wilbur began and eight others kept going.

"I hope to get up this fall for Michigan but I don't know if it's going to work or not," Fred says.

"I thought fraternity life was great. And it was. It turned out to be a wonderful experience."



# ALPHA ZETA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

## A Handful Of Alpha Zetans Garnered Scholarships, Find out More About These Impressive Students!

The Alpha Zeta Corporation Board is pleased to recognize several outstanding Alpha Zetans, who received scholarship funds for the 2015-16 school year. This year's selection committee was headed by Scholarship Chair Joe Leslie.

Students receiving the **Dr. David A. Morrow III Alpha Zeta Fraternity Scholarship** are Michelle Hartzell, Stephen Smith and Greyson Smith.

We got a chance to catch up with Michelle and Stephen about receiving the scholarships and what they mean to them.



Michelle Hartzell

**Michelle Hartzell**  
**Hometown:** Slippery Rock, Pa.  
**Major:** Animal Sciences  
**Future Plans:** I am planning to pursue a career in human medicine.

Michelle says: "I am very honored to be a recipient of an Alpha Zeta scholarship," Michelle says. "Thank you to our alumni for their generous donation to offset the cost of college education."



Stephen Smith

**Stephen Smith**  
**Hometown:** Honesdale, Pa.  
**Major:** Animal Science  
**Future Plans:** I want to find a job as a dairy herdsman after I graduate. I would eventually like to own and operate my own dairy and creamery set-up.

Stephen says: "This scholarship helps makes affording to go to school so much easier," Stephen says. "Without the amazing alumni Alpha Zeta has, we wouldn't have this great scholarship opportunity. I really appreciate all that our alumni do for us."

Students receiving the **Alpha Zeta Lindley and Dorothy Dennis Memorial Award** are Cara Trotter and William Ziemendorf. Here's some more about these noteworthy students:



Cara Trotter

**Cara Trotter**  
**Hometown:** Enon Valley, Pa.  
**Major:** Animal Science, Business Option  
**Future Plans:** After graduation I would like to work for a dairy breed

organization or in the marketing aspect in the ag industry. After working in the industry for a while, I would like to return to my family's dairy farm, Trotacre Farm.

Cara says: "Thank you for giving me the opportunity to receive the Lindley and Dorothy Dennis Memorial Scholarship," Cara says. "I greatly appreciate the monetary award towards my education. I am proud to be a recipient of this scholarship, as well as a new member of the fraternity."



William Ziemendorf

**William Ziemendorf**  
**Hometown:** Sanborn, N.Y.  
**Major:** Plant Science major, AGBM minor, Argonomy Minor  
**Future Plans:** To pursue a sales career in the field of agronomy

William says: "This scholarship has helped me to fulfill my degree and my dream to work in the field of ag," Will says. "The support system, both through alumni and scholarships that the house has offered, has made my college experience."

Alli Hartman and Mike Rush received the **Alpha Zeta Corporation Scholarship** award. We caught up with Alli about the honor.



Alli Harman

**Alli Hartman**  
**Hometown:** Turbotville, Pa.  
**Major:** Public Relations  
**Future Plans:** To work for an agricultural communications agency on public relations and communications initiatives for clients across all parts

of the food system

Alli says: "Joining Alpha Zeta while at Penn State has been a wonderful way for me to network with the strong Morrill Chapter alumni base and stay connected to the College of Agricultural Sciences while earning my degree in communications," Alli says. "My AZ connections have resulted in multiple ag comm internships during my time at school, giving me great experience within the industry. I am very grateful to the Morrill alumni who donate generously to the scholarship fund. This scholarship will be a huge help as I finish up my final semesters at Penn State."

Anna Brown, the widow of Morris Brown had established a scholarship in honor of her late husband. These funds will be managed by the Corporation Board. This year's recipient of the Morris Brown award is **Chris Toevs**.



# ALPHA ZETA Penn State

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## In this Issue...

- Zeta's most famous family; 4 Generations of Seipts
- Meet Our Latest Scholars
- Updates, Upcoming Events and more!

## ANNUAL FUND / HONOR ROLL

### Can We Count on Your Gift This Year?

We want to take another opportunity to thank all the Alpha Zetans who gave to our annual fund this past year. Our giving year ended and we are happy to report that many of you answered the call to give back to the organization that meant – and continues to mean – so much to all of us.

Annual funds are crucial to the well-being of fraternity chapters nationwide.

Your gifts help us:

- Host alumni events and maintain a consistent communications program to keep our members connected
- Fund important house projects to ensure the house remains in good shape
- Make the Alpha Zeta experience available for future Penn State students

If you'd like to make a gift to the current annual fund, which began on Sept. 1, and help perpetuate and strengthen our group, ensuring the Alpha Zeta experience is available to future Penn State students. Each gift makes a difference!

Thanks again to our generous donors from this past year! Get your name on this list by donating today!

#### Alpha Zeta Morrill Chapter Directors Circle (\$1,000+)

Richard A. Criley 1962  
Franklin M. Madden 1962

#### Morrill Founders Circle (\$750.00 - \$999.99)

Robert H Hodge 1956  
Max L. Sponseller 1960  
A David Horne 1961  
Frank E. Resides Jr. 1962  
Ernest L. Gelsingler 1984

#### 360 N. Burrowes Society (\$360 - \$499.99)

William Harry Schaffer 1950  
William A. Haugh 1960

#### Mode and Blue Club (\$250 - \$359.99)

James L. Pierson 1948  
Clyde William Mayer 1949  
Donald V. Seipt 1950  
Vernon T. Smith Jr. 1950  
Clarence R 'Cy' Fahnestock 1951

Edgar E. Fehnel 1954  
Wendell R. Hunt 1959  
Glenn R. Buss 1962  
Darrell M. Hoffman V.M.D. 1963

Joel R. Furman 1966  
William J. Bowers 1969  
Kerry L. Brown 1969  
H James Schroll 1969  
Thomas E Brown 1974  
Patricia A. Wolff 1978  
Aaron W. Harpster 1996  
Christopher A. Connelly 1999  
DVM 1999  
Emily Caldwell 2009  
Nathan Heim 2009

#### 1897 Society (\$189.70 - \$249.99)

Harvey J. Brown 1950  
Kenneth L. Sacks 1957  
Walter K. Trumbauer 1957  
Samuel F. Minor 1960  
Lynn A Laudenslager 1964  
Arthur H. Keen 1968  
Jonathan W. Martin 1968  
Randall C. Fertelmes 1969  
Jay E. Shaffer 1973  
Franklin M. Brown Jr. 1977  
Garry L. Pepple 1977

Kathleen J. Hartzell 1981  
Nancy T. Schlegel 1987

#### Morrill Associates (\$100 - \$189.69)

Emory J. Brown 1948  
John A. Bosch 1951  
James A. Leamer Jr. 1951  
John D. Cope 1952  
John H. Milsom 1954  
Carl W. Swartz 1954  
Dale L. Eppinger USAF, Ret 1955  
Darwin G. Braund 1956  
Albert R. Carey 1956  
Fred L. Seipt 1956  
John D. Sink 1956  
Francis S. Markland Jr. 1957  
Richard L. Pharo 1957  
Donald Snyder 1957  
Gary T. Miller 1958  
Allen R. Shoey 1958  
William R. Wallace 1958  
Raymond W. Evans Jr. 1960  
Henry M. Fortna 1961  
Joseph C. Hurlburt 1961  
Gary E. Oiler 1961  
Frederic L. Rickett 1961  
Herbert Rothe 1961  
Richard R. Kessler 1962

Gary L. Minor 1963  
William F. Wieger 1964  
Dean P. Neely 1965  
Alan R. Michael 1966  
Newton Alan Bair 1967  
Carl A. Brown 1967  
Joel C. Brown 1968  
Marshall C. Carothers 1969  
Edward N Squire Jr. 1970  
Thomas J. Van Winkle 1971  
Alan D. Wood 1971  
Curt Harler III 1972  
William C. McMillen 1973  
Philip C. Kitlinski 1975  
Mark P. Bridgen 1977  
Daniel D. Laird 1978  
David W. Gregg 1979  
Gordon B. Hoover 1979  
Kathy L. Gross 1983  
Leo L. Dunn 1987  
John J. Mattilio 1987  
Benjamin F. Byers II 1992  
Kevin J. Harvatine 2001  
Michael L. Flinchbaugh 2002  
Ben Cloninger 2007  
Nicholas Pease 2007  
Emily Yeiser 2007  
James Hoffman 2008  
Nate Ulmer 2013

#### Annual Dues (\$50 - \$99.99)

John Cairns Jr. 1944  
William H. Yerkes III 1951  
Boyd E. Wolff 1953  
Wilbur D. Kennedy 1957  
Joseph E. Kunsman Jr. 1960  
James Robert Nuss Jr. 1960  
Glenn A. Zepp 1960  
Robert C. Gilmour 1961  
Karroll K. Kershner 1962  
Charles E. Steen 1962  
Eric K Holm 1963  
George E. Seidel Jr. 1965  
David J. Maille 1970  
Philip E. Wagner 1972  
Timothy E. Dutt 1973  
Joseph E. Strittmatter 1973  
Barron L. Hetherington 1975  
Jeffery R. Williams 1975  
Marjorie Pyle Bradford 1977  
Jeffrey L. Harding 1981  
Alan P. Kozak 1984  
Sharon Wagner Hardel 1992  
Brent Y. Baker 1993  
Andrew S. Morley 1994  
Liza Haas Loy 1999  
Michael A. Mischna 1999  
Jake Hushon 2005  
Mark Lowery 2009  
Joel Smith 2013