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UPCOMING EVENT

5th Annual Golf Outing
Friday, May 14, 2010
1 p.m.

(Shotgun start at 1:00, please arrive by 12:30). Please R.S.V.P. by May 5th to mikebrenner@allstate.com or call 614-844-4422. Tickets are \$45 per person payable to the golf course the day of our event. This includes access to the driving range and putting greens, 18 holes of golf, a cart, and the cookout at 6:00 p.m. at the Shelter.

Open House
Saturday, May 15, 2010
2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Delt Shelter



Brothers enjoying a day of golf at our 2009 outing.

Send Us Your Email Address!

Get on the list to receive our electronic communications, so you can stay informed of the latest news of the Shelter management transition, details of upcoming events, highlights from the active chapter, etc.

Please verify your email address on the back of the enclosed form.

Mu Chapter

Delta Tau Delta Fraternity at Ohio Wesleyan University

Mu Murmurs

April 2010

www.owudelts.org

HOUSE CORPORATION REPORT

Ohio Wesleyan Imposes Game-Changing Rules University To Take Control of Management of Shelter

By John Ford '73, Mu House Corp. President
jford@jonesobenchain.com

The rules of the fraternity game have changed. OWU "is committed to providing the opportunity for fraternity chapters to occupy University residences." However, OWU also reminds us that the Shelter is a university-owned building and that "residence to a fraternity chapter should be regarded as a privilege extended to the fraternity."

"We need all Mu Delts to step up."

OWU is taking control of management of the Shelter at the end of the school year, and will impose conditions on our ability to keep it. We are confident that we can meet those conditions. The conditions include "occupancy" requirements that we will have at least three years to achieve. The changes are effective June 1st and there are still unanswered questions.

OWU has promised to remodel the Shelter someday, but in the meantime we hope they allocate enough funds to do current repairs and maintenance. Budgets are a problem for everyone these days.

We provided our input in great detail. There have been months of dialogue and major problems have already been solved. The house corporations of all OWU fraternities wrote several joint letters to the Administration. We haven't received everything we've asked for, but no one does.

Copies of these letters and related materials are posted on the Mu website. Watch www.owudelts.org for updates.

House Corp will no longer have the financial obligation to repair, improve and provide common area furnishing for the Shelter. However, OWU is retaining the student Room

funds it used to give us to do that.

A major consequence is that we won't have the ability to build a reserve to use for expenses. These include liability insurance required by Delt National; sending actives to Karnea, Northern Division conferences and Leadership Academies; hosting alumni functions; maintaining our website; publishing *Mu Murmurs*; and supporting the Chapter in general.

We will run our kitchen like we always have, hiring our cook and buying the food, based on a budget of 80% of Board funds paid by members. OWU will take over maintenance and replacement of kitchen equipment at its cost, with the other 20% allocated for that purpose. The details of this are still being worked out. We will also keep our House Father.

"The changes are effective June 1st and there are still unanswered questions."

The Chapter will retain self-government rights and the sanctity of Chapter Hall, as well as the right to assign rooms.

With this newsletter we are making a financial appeal. Please support Mu Chapter by making a generous contribution of "Alumni Dues" now. We must increase active dues, but we can't put the entire burden on them. We need all Mu Delts to step up. There won't be a capital campaign sponsored by Delts for the Delt House, just a continuing plea to our Alumni to help keep Mu Chapter alive and strong.

RUSH REPORT

2010 Kicks Off with a Successful Spring Rush

The Committee of Inter-Fraternal Affairs Formed To Help Improve Rush For Greek Community

By Sean Tate '12

Rush during the 2009-2010 school year has delivered promising results. During the fall semester, we held small events such as Fireside Chats. These are when people come to a bonfire hosted by the brothers. When fall rush came to a close we had a three-person pledge class, an improvement from the previous year.

Just a few of our rush events included wing night at Buffalo Wild Wings, and Broom Ball at the Columbus Chiller North. All of the events had an excellent turnout, but

the overall pool of rushees was significantly smaller than it was in the spring of 2009.

These limitations did not stop us from getting an eight-person pledge class, all of whom are excellent men and exceptional additions to Mu Chapter.

Small rush events are being planned for the upcoming fall rush. The first was Thursday, March 18th, with more to come.

We have also created an inter-fraternal

committee named The Committee of Inter-Fraternal Affairs. The goal is to improve rush results of each fraternity on campus. The committee will improve marketing of fraternities to the non-Greek community. This will broaden the rush pool and ultimately improve the Greek community at Ohio Wesleyan. Two of the three founders of this committee, **Josh Patrick** and myself, are brothers of Mu Chapter.

BROTHERHOOD REPORT

Joshua Patrick '12 Tells What "Brotherhood" Means To Him

Strives To Bring True Meaning Back To Greek Life At OWU

By Joshua Patrick '12

Brotherhood. The meaning of this word is near and dear to me and should be to every brother of Delta Tau Delta. Our fundamentals lie in our four pillars: Truth, Courage, Faith, and Power.

The boundaries of brotherhood don't lie within race, religion, creed, or nationality. There really are no words to express the emotions from participating in a brotherhood.

I have high expectations for this house.

I want to bring back the true meaning of brotherhood. There has been an apathetic mood in the house, so I want to take the brothers out of the house for a weekend retreat to a cabin. Alumni are welcome to join us.

Another aspect I'd like to improve is that people seem to think we need alcohol in order to have fun. To improve this brotherhood, we have to improve ties with the Greek community. This is why the Committee of

Inter-fraternal Affairs was formed.

During the '60s and '70s OWU had 92% of campus Greek, we now have just 20%. We want to improve the numbers of new members joining the Greek Community.

Our goal is to educate the community about what our organizations stand for. We also seek to improve the fraternal community starting with our own houses and do away with the ongoing fraternal warfare that is occurring.

FUNDRAISING

Renewed Focus on Annual Alumni Dues

Changes At OWU Mean Your Support Is Needed Now More Than Ever

By Mike Brenner '99, DTD House Corp Treasurer (mikebrenner@allstate.com)

As **John Ford** stated in his House Corp President's report, things are changing at OWU. In the past, we have had strong participation in our Annual Alumni Dues drive. However, with the changes being implemented by OWU, your support is even more critical now.

Through the new Memorandum of Understanding, Mu Chapter we will lose the funding that is typically used to:

- Send active members to conferences and

leadership academies;

- Pay our liability insurance;
- Host alumni events; and,
- Publish this alumni newsletter, *Mu Murmurs*.

Due to the loss of this revenue stream, the Mu House Corp will renew our focus on Annual Alumni Dues. Beginning in the 2010-2011 school year, active member dues will be doubled in anticipation of the lost revenue.

To remain competitive on campus, this

burden cannot fall only on active members. Alumni participation will be critical, and we are asking for your generous support. **Please consider making a donation of \$100 to the Mu Chapter Annual Dues Drive today.**

We will continue to post information about the changes OWU is making. Check our website regularly for updates at www.owudelts.org.

Thank you for contributing to the future of Mu Chapter at Ohio Wesleyan University!

ALUMNI PROFILE

At Delt, Charles Cooper '49 Found Support, Friendship and His Wife

60+ Years Later, He Still Believes in Giving Back

From a young age, **Charles Cooper '49** knew he enjoyed the Ohio area and everything it had to offer. Surprisingly, he had only been to Ohio by chance.

In the early '40s, when Cooper was a teen, his parents moved from Providence, Rhode Island to California. They made a stop in Bexley, Ohio to get their oil changed. This was when Cooper really became impressed with the area.

During his senior year he began researching colleges. He received letters from many different universities. However, only one school really stood out, Ohio Wesleyan.

"I received more letters from Ohio Wesleyan than any place else," said Cooper. "The schools gave incoming freshmen's names to the fraternities, so I started receiving letters from the fraternities as well. With all of that, they just seemed like they really wanted me to come [to OWU]."

"DTD was the best thing that ever happened to me."

It also fell into place that Cooper was a Methodist, and OWU was a Methodist School. Upon arriving at the Ohio Wesleyan campus, Cooper joined Delta Tau Delta.

"For one, the Delts were thought to be pretty strong; they had athletics, a good G.P.A., and they were into college politics. They really were one of the strongest frats at OWU," Cooper said.

After being initiated into Delt, Cooper soon realized he was walking into a unique situation. He was entering his first year as War World II was raging overseas. Because of this, many fraternities and sororities were displaced or moved into other homes on campus.

"[At the time] there were no women's dormitories on campus, because they had been taken over by the Navy," said

Cooper. "So the university gave some of the fraternity houses over to the girls, which DTD happened to be one of them. So during my time there, I lived in the ATO House and had meals at the Beta Theta Pi house. Those were pretty funny days during the war."

Cooper could not recall his first fraternity party at the Ohio Wesleyan campus, but there was one memory that will always stand out in his mind, the memory of meeting his wife.

It was a chance meeting at an exchange dinner with Delt and the ladies of Gamma Phi Beta. He sat next to her, and Cooper said "it didn't take long" for them to fall for each other.

As he continued his Business and Political Science studies he found there was no question how much being in Delt helped him along the way.

"The frat wanted to do well," he said. "They used to post GPAs of the fraternities, so it was important to us to do well. Really, most of these guys were veterans; they had gone off to war and come back to school. A lot of guys were married, [so] they stuck to the books. Plus, the fraternity got on you if you weren't doing well."

Not only did Delt help Cooper with his grades, he also learned important social skills and sharpened his people skills, which he believes helped measurably in his career after college.

After graduation, Cooper worked at an insurance company, Washington National, selling group insurance. He worked as a manager in Baltimore, Washington, and Richmond, Virginia. He later became Executive V.P. and served on the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, and CEO of several subsidiary committees.

He spent more than 40 years with the company. After retiring, he made himself President of his very own consulting group.

Now fully retired, the only thing he wishes he had done differently is to



have retired later in life and built up his pension. With the current economic situation, he says his pension has really taken a hit.

"Donald Trump and I have something in common. When this economic crisis hit we both lost half our money," Cooper said. "The only trouble is, his was half a billion dollars, mine wasn't."

Cooper however still enjoys retirement. He plays golf at his country club and walks an hour every day. This May, he will attend his 60th college reunion.

He describes his time as a Delt as "pure happiness," and believes that even if someone is having a difficult financial time, they should still donate just as he does every year.

"DTD was the best thing that ever happened to me," said Cooper. "We should all continue to donate; it's a good investment in the future of the fraternity, the future of the university and the future of our country as a whole."

PLEDGE UPDATE

Adam Dettra '13 Shares His Story About Why He Became A Delt Other Houses Couldn't Compete With The Welcome He Received at Delta Tau Delta

By Adam Dettra '13, Pledge Class President

When I came to Ohio Wesleyan I knew I wanted to be a Delt because my brother was one at Marietta. I saw how the fraternity had a positive impact in his life.

When I first arrived at OWU I checked out other fraternities to find the one that was right for me. I rushed a few houses on the hill, but didn't enjoy them at all.

When I went to the Delt house I knew instantly that they were the fraternity for me. The front doors were open and brothers were waiting to greet me. I couldn't take two steps without being introduced to someone. I have never felt so welcomed before.

After meeting everyone I knew that I

wanted to be a Delt and live in the house, but to do that I would have to go through pledging. I was apprehensive about the process, having heard about the events at Ohio University.*

"I feel like I made one of the best choices of my life."

I talked to my brother about his pledge experiences, but since things are different at every chapter, he didn't have a lot of advice for me. I then talked to brothers and alumni and my doubts subsided.

It's nice to know that everyone made it through as an improved and more responsible person. Sure there are some things that I don't enjoy doing, but I know that everything has a purpose. When I look back on this experience I'll be able to say, "That makes sense now."

I feel like I made one of the best choices of my life. The brothers are some of my best friends at school. I know that we can make this the best house on campus and the best chapter in the entire fraternity.

**The Beta Chapter of DTD at Ohio University was recently suspended by the national organization for allegations of hazing.*

CHAPTER REPORT

From the Desk of Mu's New President Cory Milne '11 Role As President Offers Safety Zone For Learning Life Skills

By Cory Milne '11

As President of the Chapter, I have already had so many experiences I didn't think I would have this early in my term as President. There have been both good and bad things that have happened, but they all have had positive effects on me.

These experiences have served as a wakeup call, a glimpse into real life and the fact that it is not easy. I am more aware of my surroundings as I constantly weigh risks and consequences. This has helped me develop organizational skills I never knew I had.

My predecessor, **Andrew Riley** warned me that it was like taking an extra class. He was not kidding! Everywhere I go I am a representative of Delt's letters and the current face of Mu Chapter.

I am consistently surprised by the things that our Brothers are doing. Recently, two Sophomores **Sean Tate** and **Josh Patrick** created the Council of Inter-fraternal Affairs, a committee dedicated to public relations for Fraternity life and Rush calendars.

"This has helped me develop organizational skills I never knew I had."

Other Brothers have organized the "Chili for Chile Cook-off," a chili cook-off charity event to raise funds for Chile after the disastrous earthquakes which recently rocked their country.

Aaron Straw, our current House Father once described us as a "Barrel of Monkeys" and I could not agree more. He described us as all hanging from a tree that is our house, one arm raised to hang from a branch or another monkey, and the other hand extended down to hold up other monkeys to bring up new generations. We are the monkeys in this crazy brotherhood that manages to function through any circumstance.

These guys constantly impress me and I'm proud to be making Mu Chapter a better place as its President. It helps me learn how to handle situations first in a safety zone that is my chapter before going into the real world.

**Share your news, stories, photos and updates in the next issue of Mu Murmurs!
Send your submissions using the enclosed form and envelope, or email them to
content@affinityconnection.com (mention Delt at OWU).**