



January
2012

The Black Lantern Newsletter

Gamma Zeta Alumni
Association

Decade Representative Brother Lee Blakemore ('52)

Brother Lee Blakemore ('52) - our tireless 50's Decade Representative and unwavering supporter of the Alumni Association announced at homecoming that he will be "retiring" from his role as the 50's Decade Representative, effective January of 2012.

Lee became active in the Alumni Association while plans were being made for the 50th Anniversary Homecoming festivities in 2000. That year, Lee made it known that he intended to become an active member of the Alumni Association and it's goal of supporting the undergraduate chapter at BGSU. For the last 12 years Lee took that goal to heart, and was a regular at our Homecoming festivities and Alumni Association meetings - flying in from California to Detroit Metro and making the drive down to BGSU each time.

Lee fully embraced the concept of the Decade Representative, by reaching out and keeping in touch with brothers initiated in the '50's, many who undoubtedly had no contact with the Alumni Association in decades. In addition Lee has a seemingly natural talent for connecting with current undergraduate chapter members on his trips to BG. This can only be witnessed by how many undergraduates and recent alumni know him by name and look forward to seeing him at Homecoming.

While Lee's daily contributions to the Alumni Association will be missed, we are forever indebted to him for his years of service to the Association. While he may consider himself "retired" - we fully look forward to his presence at many more Homecoming's in the future.

"Little did I know when I called Lee out of the blue in the summer of 2000, what a tremendous volunteer he would become for Gamma Zeta. Lee has been the gold standard for what a decade representative can and should be doing. I can't imagine anyone would be able to fill or even replace Lee's shoes...he was that good and impactful"

- Gordy Heminger (CEO, Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity) -

Homecoming 2011



Above: Homecoming 2011 was held in BGSU the weekend of October 15, 2011. Thank you to Brother Bob Thomas ('77) for driving his RV to BGSU for the festivities and allowing us to use it as the main location for our tailgating activities prior to the football game.



Above: Inside the tent during the tailgating festivities. (L to R) Steve Evanko, Joyce Evanko and Bob Thomas.

Alpha Sigma Phi - 1952

This photo appeared in the Key Yearbook from 1952.

Front (L to R): P. Boyer, E. Clafin, M. Brown, N. Resar, J. Rogers, G. Gutschalk, M. Mickle, C. Welch.

2nd (L to R): D. Dellinger, C. Wyans, R. Garland, D. McClelland, S. Morgan, E. Hatfield, R. Pool

3rd (L to R): D. Demetral, D. Mitchell, D. Tindall, J. Burbridge, W. MacBeth, W. Abell, R. Hoffman

4th (L to R): D. Nelson, D. Stonemetz, W. Maurer, K. Newman, M. Dreslinski, D. Reese, F. Rider



Remembering Bill Brenneman - by John Putnam ('66)

"It's hard to believe that it's been almost two years since we lost Brother Bill Brenneman. He was quite a guy and he was also my Big Brother. Bill would have been the first to tell you that to him having a good time came first and attending to his college studies came second. I have many fond memories of Bill, but one in particular stands out.

It had been decided to have a "Purple Jesus" at the house. I had no idea what that was until someone told me. It was going to be held on Friday, April 6, 1967, and we were told to make sure our housemother, Mrs. Wagner, didn't find out, or she'd be sure to call the campus police on us. I didn't realize until I got back to the house that evening that the big event was to take place in my room, as a huge metal tub had somehow materialized in the middle of the room, with a smaller tub sitting on the back of a battered easy chair over by the bunkbeds. I had the upper bunk, Gary Smith had the lower bunk, and Bill had the single bed. Everyone was supposed to have gotten a bottle of some alcoholic beverage during the week, and soon there was a steady parade into the room, as bottle after bottle was emptied in to the large tub. We pretty much emptied the soda machine in the dining room, and all that was poured into the tub too. Then the mix was stirred thoroughly and hundreds of ice cubes were now in the smaller tub. Then the party began!

Everybody showed up at about nine that night with various cups or drinking glasses, and we all started to help ourselves to this unusual concoction that sat before us. One was enough for me! I don't know what gasoline tastes like, but it has to be similar to this concoction! I got up on the upper bunk and watched everyone else go at it. Some drank only a little, others drank a lot, and of course Bill was one who drank a lot. At around midnight Bill announced that he was now 21 years old, as it was his birthday. He said all the bars in BG gave you a free drink on your birthday and he intended to get his. He asked if anyone wanted to go with him, and a few did, so off Bill headed to the Canterbury Inn, J. Alfred's, The Teddy Bear, and Northgate. I told Bill that I was going to bed, and he reminded me that he had a long ROTC hike scheduled for Saturday morning, with full pack, and that I should make sure he got up for it. Then he left.

I don't know what time he returned, but at about 5:30 AM his alarm went off and woke me up. It didn't wake Smitty up, and as I looked over at Bill I could see he was out of it, lying on his back with his mouth wide open... totally out of it. The alarm stopped and I yelled to Bill a couple of times, but it did no good. Seeing that there were still some ice cubes in the tub next to the bed, I reached down and grabbed some, and flung them at Bill, hitting him in the face. Nothing! I did it a few more times, and when he continued sleeping I decided to go back to sleep myself.

When I got up a few hours later Bill was gone, but nobody had seen him leave. Those who had gone downtown with him the night before said he had been in pretty bad shape when he got back to the house, and they were all surprised he had been able to go off on the hike.

The hike was supposed to be over at about 1pm that afternoon, and as that hour approached almost all of us went out on the roof to await Bill's return. We were looking northward at the rear of Rodger's Hall, and soon noticed ROTC cadets with their full packs coming into view, returning from their ordeal. There were groups of two or three walking by in the distance, but still no Bill. We waited and waited, but nothing. No one else was in sight now, and someone on the roof joked "God - do you think Bill died?" We all wondered! Then, from around the corner of Rodgers came a solitary figure, really dragging, with his head down, looking as though he was about to drop! As he got closer and closer to the house, we realized it was Bill and we all began to cheer. We yelled out "What a guy!", "Hell of a man Bill!", and other things along those lines. Bill lifted his head, and began walking faster as he had a great big grin on his face. When he reached the house he looked up at us on the roof, and the very first thing he said was "Who wants to go drinking with me?". That was Bill... my Big Brother! He was a hell of a guy.

2012 Alumni Golf Outing

Planning is underway for the 2nd Annual Gamma Zeta Alumni Golf Outing, which is tentatively scheduled for June 2012. Following last year's successful inaugural outing in Columbus, OH, we're looking for an even stronger showing of brothers this year. The event is open to all Gamma Zeta alumni from any decade, so spread the word, start getting together your foursome, and make plans to join us this summer. More details will be released as they become solidified.

Questions or ideas for the outing? Contact Steve Swaggerty at stevesswaggerty@gmail.com or 419.276.9900, or Joe Reece at wjreece11@yahoo.com or 317.695.3510.



Above: Brothers of Chi Alpha (the local fraternity that was the predecessor of Alpha Sigma Phi at BGSU) relaxing in the upper floor of Ivy Hall - their home in 1950.

Pinning your girl - 40's Style

1947 in BGSU - young innocent farm girl meets worldly World War veteran. Picture the BGSU campus in the Fall of 1947. A year earlier the enrollment was around 1800 students, and all of the sudden hundreds of WWII veterans descend on the University. They were housed in the basement of buildings in campus, portable buildings brought onto campus, and even in the gymnasiums. To feed the crowd a new cafeteria was built! It was possible to buy a meal ticket for ten dollars which entitled you to eat three meals a day for seven days!

It was in line at that new cafeteria that brother Bob Kabat ('50) met his future wife Luella. Luella later joined the Delta Zeta sorority, while Bob was a Chi Alpha and later became an Alpha Sig.

A long courtship started... campus was beautiful with lots of trees and no cars. Walking thru the leaves in the fall and on the light snow in the winter down to the Cla-Zel to see a movie and drink hot chocolate afterwards. Like in those movies romance blossomed and in 1949 Bob gave Luella his fraternity pin.

Tradition stated that the chapter had to serenade the Delta Zeta sorority, after which the fraternity was invited in for tea and cookies. After leaving the sorority house the ritual continued with a dunking of Brother Kabat in Powell Pond on the old golf course. After that was accomplished, the brother that had just pinned his girl was expected to entertain the fraternity at Mid-Way Tavern - where Bob was expected to pick up the tab! Of course, beer was only 50 cents a pitcher at that time.

(Story submitted by Brother Robert Kabat ('50), who happily reports that he and Luella got married in 1950 and have been together for over 60 years!)



Above: The Brothers of Chi Alpha in 1950. Left to right: Louis Sumney, Louis Popek, Bob Kabat, Charley Splain, Dick Hartland, and Don Tindle.

Alumni Update - Paul Pfahler ('50)

After leaving BGSU, many alumni may not know that Brother Paul Pfahler went on to become quite a prolific high school football coach for the Boyne City Ramblers in Michigan.



The year was 1961 and a young Coach Pfahler made a promise in the local newspaper that "This is the finest bunch of players I've ever seen and they have great promise!"

His 1960 team went 7-1, and was the beginning of 10 straight non-losing seasons for the Ramblers. But his 1961 team would do Coach Pfahler one better, earning a perfect record, outscoring their opponents 297-58, and being named Class C State Football Champions by various polls that ranked the teams in the days before state playoffs.

During his coaching tenure, Brother Pfahler had the opportunity to coach Carl Charon, who went on to star at Michigan State, get drafted by the Redskins, and play for the Buffalo Bills.

Brother Pfahler ended up coaching at Boyne City from 1955 to 1976, and was inducted into the Michigan High School Football Coaches Hall of Fame in 1985. He and his wife Dorothy currently reside in Lakeland, Florida.

Alumni Update - Steve Evanko ('78)

Brother Evanko is an insurance agent in Delaware, Ohio, and recently wrote us to say that his company is rolling out a new website: www.IWantMyQuote.com. Ohio residents can get online auto and home quotes in 5 to 7 minutes. No filling out a form and waiting for an agent to get back to you days later.



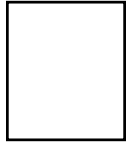
You'll find the Gamma Zeta Alumni Association on-line at the "LinkedIn" networking site. Search for the group "Alpha Sigma Phi - Gamma Zeta Chapter - BGSU" and join us!

We also have a Facebook group page! Next time you're on Facebook, please take a moment to search for the group "Alpha Sigma Phi - Gamma Zeta Alumni" and join our group.

HER CAUSE IS HIDDEN...

HER RESULTS ARE WELL KNOWN...

Gamma Zeta Alumni Association
 18303 Crystal Lakes Drive
 North Royalton, OH 44133



2011-2012	Alumni Association Officers:	
	The Gamma Zeta Alumni Association consists of the following alumnus of Alpha Sigma Phi at BGSU:	
	President-	Matt Bowles ('01) bowles.matthew@gmail.com
	Vice President-	Christian Sirney ('07) christian.sirney@gmail.com
	Treasurer-	Tom Dedrick ('67) tdcurveball@yahoo.com
	Secretary-	Sean Mulder ('92) sean_mulder@yahoo.com
	Chapter Advisor-	Gregory Robinette ('79) greg.robinette@gmail.com
	Communications-	Dave Kreienkamp ('93) daveykgb@gmail.com
	'50's Rep-	OPEN
	'60's Rep-	OPEN
	'70's Rep-	Paul Slygh ('72) slypr@hotmail.com
	'80's Rep-	Kirk Hogrefe ('86) kh64@oh.rr.com
	'90's Rep-	Mike Gerboth ('92) gerbs1015@yahoo.com
	2000's Rep(s)-	Aaron Shumaker ('03) shumaker.aaron@gmail.com
Web Site-	John Flood ('07) john.h.flood@gmail.com	
Development-	Bob Thomas ('77) bobthomas@exhibitmanagement.com	
	Matt Humberger ('03) matthumberger@gmail.com	
For all the latest news, visit the Alumni Association Website at: www.bgalphasigs.com		



2012 Annual Giving Fund

The Gamma Zeta Alumni Association Annual Fund is used to pay for the operating expenses of the Alumni Association. This includes the website, Black Lantern Newsletters, Homecoming expenses, and other ways to support the chapter.

Gifts to the 2012 Annual Fund may be made by check by using the form to the right, or by credit card at www.bgalphasigs.com

Donation Levels:

Anniversary (\$62 and up)
 Brotherhood (Other \$ Amt)

Name: _____

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Please make checks payable to "Gamma Zeta Alumni Association" and send to:

Mr. Tom Dedrick
 18303 Crystal Lakes Drive
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