



# ALPHA NU OMEGA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER #6 – Feb, 2011

***“SERVICE FOR BROTHERS”***

## Presidents Message

Jerry Walsh, 29<sup>th</sup> Pledge Class, UD Class 1987

Can you believe its 2011 already? A few years ago we were told that the end was near for Alpha Nu Omega and now we are approaching our 42<sup>nd</sup> year at the University of Dayton! Technically ANΩ was the second oldest fraternity on campus. The EDT Engineering fraternity was the oldest, but back in November I was told that the EDT's received a 5 year "death sentence" suspension. So we have now taken the undisputed title as the "oldest" fraternity on campus. It has been a bitter sweet year indeed. Sadly our alumni association has suffered its fair share of losses this year. Most notably the passing of two founding fathers, Mike Collins and Richard Shea. We also lost Brother Bruce Hartman (7<sup>th</sup> PC) on New Years Day and tragically we lost the daughter of our brother John Gianacaci (9<sup>th</sup> PC), Christine Gianacaci, in the disastrous earthquake that hit Haiti last January. It is with great sadness that I had to report all these deaths to you last year but I think it's important to remind everyone not only how precious life is but also how solid our brotherhood is. The unexpected, or even the expected loss of a loved one is never easy but I'm continually amazed at the outpouring of love and support from our ANΩ family. It was a very difficult year with all of our losses but I do have some good news to report as well.

The Annual Col. Paul Kelly Golf Tournament last year, though sparsely attended, it was a good time for all and we actually made a little money for the scholarship fund. The active brothers had a good year as well. They added eight new members and I have been told that

this semester should be a big one for recruiting new pledges.

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## Alpha Nu Omega Fund Raiser Raffle

**We have a WINNER!!!** It is with great pleasure we announce the winner of our first Alpha Nu Omega Alumni Association Raffle.

### Steve Mashuda (43<sup>rd</sup> Pledge Class)

Steve won \$9,650.00 in the raffle. Let's hear it for Steve!!!



Steve is originally from Pittsburg but now resides in Seattle WA. Steve was a very gracious winner and even donated \$1,150.00 back to ANΩ. In addition to donating back to our Alumni Association Steve is going to donate to St. William of York Catholic School to help offset the cost of tuition for Paul Kelly's children for the 2011 and 2012 academic school year. He is a true Patriot! Steve has also been very generous to the alumni association in every fund raising effort so maybe it's Gods little way of rewarding those who have been generous. Brothers, we just want to thank all of you for all the participation in this event. Even though we did not sell enough tickets for someone to win the car, only 193 out of our target of 500, we have come together and built up our Scholarship fund. The Alumni Association now even has a little money in the bank for a "rainy day" if we need it.

## Alumni Reunion October 2010

This past fall we again held our Annual Golf Tournament for the benefit of the Col. Paul Kelly Scholarship Fund. It was a great weekend of golf, beer and football. Even though sparsely attended, it was a good time for all and we actually made a little money for the scholarship fund.



The weather cooperated and it was a good time playing golf and hanging out. It brings back the memories from when we were at UD. We cannot drink as much as we used too but then again we need all the brain cells we have left at our age!

We look forward to see you all this coming fall for more golf, beer and fun. And don't forget that this event aids The Col. Paul Kelly Scholarship Fund.

## Active Brother News

The active brothers are working hard and have much going on. They have recently held elections for officers and the results are as follows:

Pres- Ryan Burg  
V.P.- Joe Jeziorowski  
Treasurer- Dalton Sprawls  
Secretary- Fletcher Skelton  
Chief Justice- David Stakes  
Srg.-At-Arms- Matt Deye

Historian/Alumni Relations- Matt Rohan  
Co-Rush Chair- Dave Mara/Eric Gammarino  
Pledge Master- Rex Kuo

Asst Pledge Master- Matt Steinmetz  
Social Chair- Matt Steinmetz  
Service Chair- Eric Gammarino  
Diversity Chair- John Barnes  
Sports Chair- Pete Witchker  
IFC- John Barnes  
IFC- Joe Jeziorowski

They are working hard in obtaining all the necessary information together to see about getting a larger house. This is not an easy job but one everyone is dedicated to. They added eight new members last year and I have been told that this semester should be a big one for recruiting new pledges. We are on the way back to good numbers and a presence on campus.

To improve recognition on campus the actives have ordered a bunch of new hoodie sweatshirts and T-shirts for the Brothers. They seem to be a hit as many Brothers seem to never take them off. It is great to see our letters and colors on campus.

As a fund raiser, they are getting some windbreakers to sell to the alumni. Hopefully they'll be available for sale at the A-10 tournament. They are not hoodies, but rather a new style of ANQ jackets that look a little more stylish than the current jackets. Ryan ordered a few as a "test run" to see how the rest of the alumni will warm up to them. I love them and I've already claimed one. I'm certain that once the rest of the alumni see them they'll want one as well.



## A-10 Basketball Tournament

We all talk about staying in touch or getting together, but how often do we actually do it? If I am atypical, then not as often as I should or would like to. One way for any of us to stay in touch is to support our Dayton Flyers at the A-10 tournament. Many guys



have already contacted Trip about coming into town for the weekend. Whether the basketball team wins or loses we will have a great time. Since the format has changed to a weekend



tournament instead of Wed-Sat., you don't have to take off work except maybe Friday. Of course, if you take off Thursday you can really get a good start on the weekend. Some will stay in Atlantic City and others will be hanging out in Cape May at our Alpha Nu Omega East Compound. The invitation is out there. We hope to see you and your red jackets in the stands rooting for the Flyers. Alpha Nu's presence at the A-10 is always well



known. Weekend of March 11, 12 & 13.

Twenty men started something 40 years ago, who knew it would last this long. But it is great to see how they still stay in touch. Below is a picture from March 2007 in Atlantic City, NJ at the A-10 tournament.

What a turnout, 40% of those men were there. Don't let time pass you by without seeing and saying hi to old friends. Don't let time pass by without making some new friends and brothers. We all have one thing in common regardless of age, race or creed that is **ALPHA NU OMEGA!** So get up and visit our website and plan to take a day off from work and rekindle old friendships while making new ones at our 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion. If "Wild Bill" can make it from Colorado, why can't you?

**Hope to see you there!**

## Vice-Presidents Message

Trip DeGroff, 7<sup>th</sup> Pledge Class, UD Class of 1975

A lot has happened over the past 5 years since Alpha Nu Omega was hit with the death penalty. One of the most important things that have come out of this is that it has brought hundreds of us together again. Not just from semi-annual events and gatherings in some of the cities where many of the alumni are from, but now, through the internet.

Don Puglio (Gulio) did a tremendous job in putting together the history of the Fraternity and gathering photographs from the beginnings of the Frat to date, and now we have e-mail addresses and phone numbers for most of our brothers. There are still many that we don't have and I would like to ask all of you again, if you are in contact with any brothers out there at all, please ask if they are getting the e-mails. If not, forward their address to us so we can get them on the list.

Marty Malloy did a tremendous job being our liaison between Frat and University to keep the channels of communication going so we could get our status back as a recognizable Fraternity back on campus.

Bryan Bardine, who was gracious enough to take on the task of advisor for this Fraternity, stuck with us when it looked really bad and helped us through the hard times.

Jerry Walsh has done a tremendous amount of leg work for the Fraternity and started the Paul Kelly Scholarship Fund which has helped us enormously in getting our status back with UD.

Bill Fajardo puts together this newsletter for all of us to read and catch up with what is going on. Steve Coy (O.D.) has put in countless hours working on our website and running the finances of the raffle and I want to thank each and every one of them for their hard work.

There are many others that have helped out and they know who they are. Also, a big "THANK YOU" to all of those who contributed to the fundraiser. You guys have delivered in a tough economic time and we do appreciate anything and everything that you have given.

Even though these events have brought many of us closer and back together again after so many years of being out of the picture, we have lost some very good friends during this time. I lost two pledge brothers in

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## In Memorial

Sadly our alumni association has suffered its fair share of losses this year. Most notably with the passing of two of our Founding Fathers, Mike Collins and Richard Shea. We also lost Brother Bruce Hartman (7<sup>th</sup> PC) on New Years Day and tragically we lost the daughter of our brother John Gianacaci (9<sup>th</sup> PC), Christine Gianacaci, in the disastrous earthquake that hit Haiti last January.

The Alumni Association would like to express our deepest sympathy to their family and friends. They are in our thoughts, hearts and prayers.

**Mike Collins (Mike)**, our first President, died suddenly last fall. I am so thankful to have seen him at the 40<sup>th</sup> as it was the first time he



had been back since graduation. There is just something special when we can be gone so long and then see each other and it is as if no time has passed at all, amazing. Mike took lots of photos and videos of the reunion

and we will miss him greatly as will his family and his multitude of friends. *Marty Malloy*

Here is a note from Mike's wife

*Jerry,*

*I can't tell you how much your words have meant to me, especially at a time like this! It's amazing as to how many people he touched in his lifetime. But I know he had a special place in his heart for the brothers of the Alpha Nu Omega fraternity. He was so excited about the reunion, and I am so glad he was able to be there for it. He especially enjoyed taking the pictures, it wasn't a chore for him, it was in his nature to help friends in any way he could and it meant a lot to him. Thank the brothers for me.*

*Sincerely,*

*Jeannette Collins*

**Rich Shea (Snacko)**, we also lost my best friend Rich Shea to his three year battle with cancer. He put up one helluva fight and I drew a lot of strength from my



Brother over the years with the way he attacked life. It is impossible to think about Snacko without a smile crossing your face. He lit up a room and he always made you smile and laugh at life. The stories at the funeral kept us all laughing and celebrating his life. I will miss the Big Fella, the Brother I never had. He was in and out of hospitals so much over the last three years that there are some Doctors in town who think we are real brothers and one thought we were twins. I always made sure they knew he was the older brother. You know, white hair and that drunken Irish look, we all look the same I guess. *Marty Malloy*  
Don't forget to donate to the Rich Shea Scholarship!



**Bruce Hartman (Hockey)** passed away in his sleep after a long health battle. Bruce was in my pledge class (7<sup>th</sup>). Some of you may remember a little over a year ago, many of his fraternity brothers went to visit him at the nursing home outside of Baltimore last year for his birthday. I was so glad we got the chance to



see him. He was extremely happy to see us all and was very emotional during our visit.

Bruce was from Pittsburgh and had a lot of friends from the fraternity in the Steel City. He also was very close to the Princeton bunch in the Fraternity. Bruce had been battling MS for approximately the last 20 years or so. There are way too many funny stories about Bruce and the female companions he had out in Dayton. Bruce and I pledged the Fraternity together. Bruce did keep a few of his prized ANO items in his room. One was his red jacket that we gave him along with a few other items. He will be missed but he has left many happy and lasting impressions with us. *Trip DeGroff*

Bruce's family told me, you guys made a very sick man very happy with your visit last year

and it really made an impact on Bruce and his family. It really meant a lot to Bruce that his fraternity brothers never forgot about him by traveling great distances to help celebrate his birthday. Brothers, it's moments like last night that make me realize that it's no coincidence that Alpha Nu Omega is the sole survivor amongst fraternities on the campus of UD.

*Jerry Walsh*

**Christine Gianacaci**, daughter of **John Gianacaci (Caci – 9<sup>th</sup> PC)** passed away in the disastrous earthquake that hit Haiti last January. John and his wife started the Christine's Hope in her memory to continue the work that was dear to her heart. I just wanted to make you all aware of the courage, kindness and hope, John and his wife, and so many



others, have demonstrated since that agonizing day. What they have accomplished in just one short year is truly unbelievable and amazing. Please take a moment to say a prayer for the Gianacaci family and the continued success of the Christine's Hope for Children Foundation.

I encourage all of you to check out the web site as well <http://www.christineshope.org/>

### Trivia

Thought it might be fun to test your knowledge of UD and ANΩ. Below are some trivia questions. How many can you get right?

1. Who is the current President for the active Brothers of Alpha Nu Omega?
2. Who is our facility advisor at UD?
3. Who are the only two Founding Fathers not to have another Founding Father with a last name starting with the same letter?

4. What was the address of the house where the fraternity started?
5. What tournament did the Flyers basketball team last win?
6. Which Pledge Class was the largest at 22?
7. When was the last time you came back to an alumni reunion?

### ANΩ Apparel

Daren Fetcko ( 25<sup>th</sup> PC) and his wife Jen have been great supporters of Alpha Nu Omega and they were gracious enough to give us a great deal on hats for our golf tournaments the last few years as well as free trophies. Daren and Jen own JD Engraving & Awards and we have put a tab with all the Alpha Nu clothing on the Alpha Nu website. For every sale JD Engraving will pledge 20% of that sale towards our Col. Kelly Scholarship fund. We will be adding a link to our website so you can securely order clothing from the website. For now though, you'll have to do it manually by asking me to send you a catalogue and you will then be able to fax Jen Fetcko directly with your order.



**SERVICE FOR BROTHERS**

## Presidents Message – continued from page 1

There have been many changes at UD in regards to pledging. Last year it cost us 8 pledges due to the new procedures implemented by the IFC. I've been informed by Dr. Bardine and the new president of active brothers that these new procedures will make it harder to recruit this semester but hopefully will not be too much of a hindrance now that the procedures are understood.

This brings me to my next topic. The new active president is Ryan Burg. Ryan seems like a great guy. I've met Ryan a few times during my visits to UD and I can honestly say that I identified him as a leader when he was a sophomore. Ryan is from the Pittsburg area (and alpha nu named Burg from Pittsburg, go figure?) and he's a business major. Ryan has been working very hard to write up a proposal to get a new, bigger and better house for the fraternity in the fall. Things are looking good but you can never tell what's going to happen at UD these days. Ryan has also enthusiastically rallied the brothers to become more active in IFC and we now have three representatives participating in IFC. Finally, Ryan has led the initiative to purchase new ANΩ jackets for every member of the fraternity. I am very confident that Ryan can lead this fraternity back to where we need to be in order to sustain our fraternity at the University of Dayton.

The hostile atmosphere between the fraternities and sororities at UD has taken a dramatic change since September 2010. I believe that the channels of communication between the fraternities and sororities have gotten much better since Sr. Schmeling, Vice President for Student Development and Dean of Students, was terminated. The person to take Sr. Schmeling position is Sarah Schoper. I have had many conversations with Ms. Schoper and she is very approachable and keeps me in the loop whenever there are any problems with the active brothers. Her office also sends me regular updates about changes to procedures that are being implemented at UD. I also get many invitations to IFC events and other activities taking place on campus. In summary I can tell you this. The old way of doing business at UD, I'm talking about the way we remember, is over! In the past, UD left the fraternities alone

and everybody was happy. Not so much anymore! Today UD is much more involved in what goes on in Greek life and, to be sure, the life of every UD student, Greek or non-Greek. That's just the way it is and its not going to change anytime soon. The good thing about all the changes is that at least now we know where we stand and what is expected of us. There are many more rules to follow but at least everyone knows the rules and everyone knows the consequences for breaking the rules. It's going to take a little time to get used to but I think ANΩ can, and will adapt to the changes in order to survive. What's the old saying? "Change you must or die you shall". I think this best describes what is going on at UD.

The status of ANΩ on the UD campus- Brothers, I no longer feel that ANΩ is targeted for termination on the campus of UD. I really do feel that if our fraternity is willing to play by the new rules we'll have a future at UD. As I said earlier, Sarah Schoper took over for Sr. Schmeling and over the last year I have developed a good working relationship with her. She has kept me in the loop about the new procedural changes when they have been implemented and she also alerts me to "lapses in judgment" amongst the active brothers. She was also the person who told me that the plan to force ANΩ to go national was "off the table". All this was good but I just found out that Sarah Schoper has resigned effective February 18<sup>th</sup> 2011. I do not see this as a good thing. I have developed a good relationship with her and I can honestly say that even though she was pretty tough, you at least knew where stood when dealing with her. So, what does Sarah Schoper's sudden resignation mean to ANΩ? Well, I really don't have the answer for that. It could be good or it could get worst, we just don't know. Sarah Schoper's departure does not necessarily mean things will go back to the way they were. I feel UD has an agenda to clean up the Ghetto and get more control over student organizations and they are not going to be side tracked now that Sarah Schoper is leaving. The goal of the Alumni Association is to be prepared for whatever UD throws at us. That means we need to have enough money to pay for liability insurance and other situations that may arise. For the time being our alumni association and our active brothers are in good shape and I feel good about the tremendous

progress we have made in the last few years. The alumni association is financially sound, especially after the success of the raffle, and we intend to keep it that way. So for now, we are just waiting to see what UD has in store for us.

In summary, our fraternity is not the biggest, most recognized fraternity on campus but I do feel that the active brothers are involved and dedicated to increasing our numbers and making our fraternity more attractive to new members. A bigger fraternity house would help a great deal with expanding our numbers and the active brothers and Dr. Bardine are working diligently in order to make this a reality. Things are moving in the right direction and I'm impressed with the involvement of the newest brothers and the leadership of the new executive board.

Finally, I just wanted to thank everyone who was kind and generous enough to participate in our alumni association raffle. The fund raising campaign was a huge success and not only will we be making our annual contribution to our own Col. Paul Kelly scholarship fund at UD, we will also have enough money on hand to sustain our Alumni Association and support our active brothers. All the progress we have made in the last few years is because of the alumni participation. Everything we've accomplished throughout the years could not have been done without your financial support and participation. We are hoping to present our annual scholarship donation to Dr. Daniel Curran at the A-10 Tournament in Atlantic City next March so we'd love to get as many alums as possible to show up for the presentation. There will also be a large contingent of active brothers making a road trip to Atlantic City as well. So, if you want to have a really great time please consider joining your brothers for a great weekend in Atlantic City.

#### **Vice-Presidents Message** – continued from page 3

the last year, Tony Federico and Bruce Hartman. Tony, we just couldn't seem to get to an event because he was the chief of police in Princeton, N.J. and had to watch himself around the fraternity events. Bruce Hartman, I know would have been there if he could have been. He was diagnosed with MS over 20 years

ago and his last trip to Dayton was in 1995 for a class reunion. At that time he just started walking with a cane and became less mobile over time and was never able to make the trip again. We also lost Mike Oburchay to cancer a few years ago, who was another one of my friends I graduated with.

And of course, we cannot forget our Founding Fathers. First it was Bill Lux, who attended our first official meeting after the death penalty came down on the Frat and he really wanted to be involved and then we lost him. This past year was Mike Collins who returned to Dayton for the first time for our 40th anniversary celebration. He had a great time taking pictures of the events of the weekend and we have him to thank for all of our recorded memories. Most recently we lost Rich Shea (Snacko) who fought a courageous fight with cancer to the end the last 3 years. We miss them all.

We have lost some dear friends recently and have reunited others. Service for brothers became stronger than ever.

This Fall, at our next reunion, we are planning a memorial service for our deceased Brothers at the Chapel on campus. We hope many of you will attend.

Finally, on a brighter note, we have another gathering fast approaching. The A-10 tournament is upon us March 11-13. Many guys have already contacted me about coming into town for the weekend. Whether the basketball team wins or loses we will have a great time. Since the format has changed to a weekend tournament instead of Wed-Sat., you don't have to take off work except maybe Friday. Of course, if you take off Thursday you can really get a good start on the weekend. Some will stay in Atlantic City and others will be hanging out in Cape May at our Alpha Nu Omega East Compound. The invitation is out there. We hope to see you and your red jackets in the stands rooting for the Flyers. Alpha Nu's presence at the A-10 is always well known.

#### **Trivia Answers**

1. Ryan Burg
2. Dr. Bardine
3. John Grant & Bill Lux
4. 1435 Alberta Street
5. NIT in 2010
6. 58<sup>th</sup>
7. All the time