

# PHI MU ALPHA **AMONG MEN** SINFONIA **HARMONY**

## THE SAMFONIAN

The Official Alumni Newsletter of the Zeta Mu Chapter

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### Words From Our Outgoing President

My Year as President of Zeta Mu

When the idea of me being president was first brought to my attention, I wasn't sure how I should react. At first, I was comfortable being the FEO because I feel it is my destiny to spread good through the act of teaching. But on the other hand, I could take this position and strive to lead by example, which sounded like what I was called to do. I took the offer and ended up elected as Zeta Mu's president following brother Chaston Pruitt leaving for his new job (which we are all very happy for).

The year as a whole has been very fruitful and eventful! We've had two excellent musicales (thanks to all of our brothers but especially brothers Paul Fletes and Nick Szoeko for planning them). We've had a joint musicale with Sigma Alpha Iota and Tau Beta Sigma (hosted by Sigma Alpha Iota) celebrating Christmas. We hosted, in my opinion, an excellent Province Workshop, with special guest Mark Lichtenberg, national VP. It was also our Province Governor George Beverley's last workshop and year with us, so we celebrated his time with us and will greatly miss him.

Lastly, our chapter had been currently reaching a point of stagnation. It seemed as if our brothers' Sinfonian flames were burning out, so the EC and I wanted to bring these people back to us if we could. It's been a process, and it's still working on us, but through brotherhood and kindred ties and other activities utilizing the mysterious power of music, our chapter is thriving, and is reaching a point where there is no division and that we each view each other as brothers and nothing less. It has been an honor to experience this and to be a part of what will continue to be the highest point in Zeta Mu history since I was initiated two years ago.

-Jack McQueen; President Fall 2013-2014; Upsilon Class, April 28, 2012

### Probationary Members

Throughout this year, Zeta Mu chapter took in a total of 14 new members. In the fall, we had three join as our Psi class, Casey Gordon, Adam Moffett, and Richard Owen. The remaining eleven making up our Omega class, pictured right. When asked about the Psi class, Assistant FEO Robert Garza had the following to say: "We were lucky to initiate three amazing young men who I believe to be great examples of what the goals of the chapter are for the future. Their probationary meetings were always very thought provoking and brother Austin Smith (FEO) always led them to seek higher standards for themselves during their process and it continues even now in their active member status."



Left to right: Henry Espinoza, Mosies Veletzuy, Austen Smith, Rene Vazquez, Jacob Cervantes, Andres Guerra, Israel Lopez, Garrett Reebenacker, Bryan Fortine, Jason Hesslein, Dustin Foret

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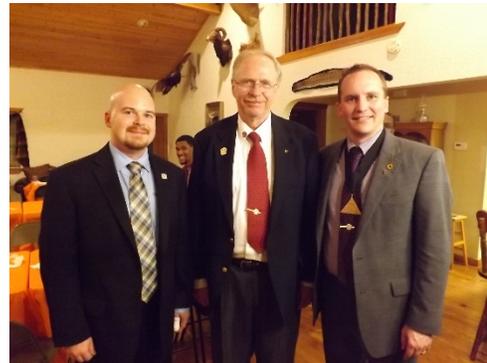
## Alumni BBQ

March 29, 2014 we held an alumni BBQ at Kasmiersky Park in Conroe, Texas. There were six brothers who were recent graduates along with two faculty Sinfonians, Mr. Bruce Hall (Rho Omega '85) and Dr. John Crabtree (Delta Omega '94). We also had one of our earliest chapter members Mr. Don Muery (Zeta Mu '56) there, who had donated a paddle at last year's banquet that was signed by original charter members. It was an excellent day of grilling, kickball, football, and brotherhood.



## Donations

This year has been a generous one for Zeta Mu. From August 2013, we have donated approx. \$2,000 to a multitude of causes and organizations. These include the SHSU School of Music, Boys and Girls Club, Student Chamber Orchestra, Stuffed Love, SHSU Trombone Choir, Alpha Delta Pi Ronald Run, Dr. Gibbs Podium Renovation, Artistry in Rhythm, and a School of Music Breakfast.



Left to right: Michael Moreau, George Beverley, Mark Lichtenberg

## Hosting Province

Zeta Mu was proud to host the annual Province 40 workshop for this year. We had an excellent turnout from all our local chapters. Friday evening, Zeta Mu presented a ritual with the National Vice President Mark Lichtenberg performing the role of HP. Saturday began with a bit of business, and with the sad news that our beloved Province Governor George Beverley would be retiring from his office. George has served the province faithfully for \_\_\_ years. Saturday night was filled with laughter and tears as there was a keynote by Mr. Lichtenberg, gifts presented to Beverley, and the final words of wisdom from Mr. Beverley:

“May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind always be at your back,  
May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
and rains fall soft upon your fields.  
And until we meet again,  
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

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## Fisher Tull Composition Award

This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> year for the Phi Mu Alpha Fisher Tull Student Composition Award. Musicians from around the school had the opportunity to enter their compositions into the competition with the winner being selected prior to the new music concert. Near the end of the concert, the scholarship of \$500 was presented by Jack McQueen (President Emeritus) and John Maldonado (President Elect) to John Michael Arensdorf for his composition “Remember” : for chamber brass and percussion.



Left to right: John Maldonado, Jack McQueen, John Arensdorf, Nathan Wood

## End of the Year Banquet

This past year we had our Banquet on the very last day of finals, and was an excellent way to wrap up the school year. We were pleased to have nearly every active brother there, as well as some local and Faculty Sinfonians. One of note, was Dr. Ralph Mills (Beta Eta '46), who we were honored to present to him his 50 year pin, and his Challenge Coin. Associate Dean of the College of Fine Arts and Mass Communication Dr. Brian Miller (Delta Mu '77) was our guest speaker for the evening, delivering a fantastic speech.

The evening concluded with the awards given out by Zeta Mu. Austin Smith won our Sinfonian of the year, Garrett Reebenacker won PM of the year, John Maldonado was our Manly Musician, while Nick Szoeker was our Musicianly Man.



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## Words From Our Incoming President

Although I've only held the position as President for a short while, I am pleased with what we were able to accomplish for this last month of the semester as an Executive Committee and as a chapter. I was extremely pleased with the work that went into our ritual and the final product. Our chapter put on an electrifying musicale that had the audience tapping their toes and clapping their hands. Prior to our musicale we hosted a pool party social event, headed up by our social chair David Smith, for the students of Fine Arts and Mass Communication in an effort to bridge the gap between the different departments i.e dance, music, theater, art, etc.

Banquet had a great turn out and it was a privilege having Dr. Mills and awarding him his challenge coin and 50 year coin, as well as having Dr. Miller be our guest speaker.

I was able to help a brother from Angelo State University show his love and support to his graduating sister even though he could not attend. With the help of his family, we were able to coordinate and serenade her after her graduation and presented her with flowers along with a few words from her brother. During graduation however, we presented each of our own graduation females, from the school of music, with a red carnation as they walked down the ramp from the stage. Since we were able to have brothers present at commencement to serenade Brother Kurt Crenwelge's sister, we serenaded our graduating brother's mothers and significant others, as well as singing Red Book songs together as collegiate brothers one last time. Seeing what we were able to complete in one month, I can't wait to see how much we can accomplish next year.

-John Maldonado; Current President; Phi Class, November 16, 2012



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If you have a Facebook page, you can add me and I can then add you to our Zeta Mu Alumni Facebook group.

For more current activities and other insights into the chapter, visit our website at: [www.pmazetamu.org](http://www.pmazetamu.org)

[Or send us an email at zmchapter@pmazetamu.org](mailto:zmchapter@pmazetamu.org)