

SAMFONIAN

The Official Alumni
Newsletter of the Zeta Mu
Chapter

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New Brothers Initiated

The Zeta Mu chapter of Phi Mu Alpha are proud to announce that we have initiated two new classes of brothers into our chapter. The Pi class (6) was initiated Spring of 2010 (see picture p.3) and the Rho class (8) in the Fall of 2010.

Both classes of young men have displayed high ideals and have shown to the brothers that they had what it takes to be Sinfonians. We are proud of their efforts throughout their Probationary Member process and are proud to now call them Brothers. These men are the future of the Fraternity and if their efforts through the process are any sign, the future is great.

We hope you will celebrate in welcoming them to the brotherhood.

-David Martin Fall 2009, Alumni Relation Officer



Rho class members after their initiation. (back from L to R) Arnold Washington, Chase Giddings, Alex Villareal, Jose Castro, Heath Martin (front from L to R) Josaphat Contreras, Marco Samperio, Robby Yarber.

Officers

- President– Casey Salinas
- Vice President– Jose Arredondo
- Treasurer– Travis Cottle
- Secretary– Stewart Gaitan
- Warden– Anthony Hicks
- Fraternity Education Officer– Michael Whitsitt
- Historian– Josaphat Contreras
- Alumni Relation Officer– David Martin

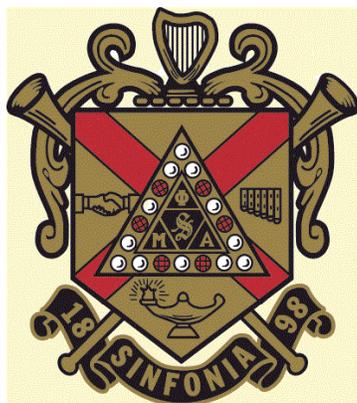
The Zeta Mu Chapter has gone through immense growth in the past few semesters, in all senses. We have many great new brothers with the initiation of the Pi and Rho classes, increasing the number of active members to more than thirty. We were very successful in the American Music Challenge, receiving third place and \$400 in prize money. The chapter as well as the entire university has enjoyed the state of the arts facilities of The James and Nancy Gaertner Performing Arts Center, since its grand opening last fall. Zeta Mu has great things in store for the near future, and great leaders to make anything possible. We look forward to seeing you at our Alumni Barbecue later this semester!

OAS, AAS, LLS!

Casey Salinas

President, Zeta Mu Chapter

Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity



Brothers at NTC

On March 11th, 2010, The SHSU Trumpet Ensemble performed at the National Trumpet Competition (NTC) in Fairfax, Va. They were chosen back in January as one of thirty groups from across the nation to perform. Two of the five members of the group were Kyle Cameron and Travis Cottle, are Sinfonians of Zeta Mu. In Fairfax, the trumpet ensemble advanced to the final round (9 groups advanced) and placed fifth in the nation. The group placed above schools such as Peabody Conservatory, UT, Baylor, and North Texas. The entire ensemble are students of Randy Adams, who is a honorary member of Zeta Mu (2003).

Kyle Cameron

Spring 2008

Marching music and modern theatrics meet

Indoor drumline takes all the hard work, dedication, musicianship, and excitement of marching band and adds the theatrics, dancing, and gracefulness found in contemporary color guard ensembles. In fact, much of the season consists of competitions in conjunction with local guards in the Texas Color Guard Circuit. In contrast to activities like marching band and drum and bugle corps, indoor drumlines typically meet only three days a week, as opposed to meeting every day, or moving to the ensemble's headquarters. These Friday-Sunday practice sessions are usually just as intense as any guard or band rehearsal. The camaraderie built during this time is invaluable, and provides musicians from all walks of life the opportunity to perform, to grow, and to enrich each others' lives. This season, two brothers performed with Houston's very own independent ensemble, Imperial Percussion Theater. Brothers involved this season included performing members John Paddie (me) and Zach Harston, along with staff member Adam Chitta. This season and next, we make up almost the entire leadership of the ensemble. We took the production "Heart" on tour around Texas and captured gold at the TCGC State Championships in San Marcos. A few weeks later, the show was on the road yet again, but this time to Dayton, Ohio for the Winter Guard International World Championships. Competing in the Independent Open class, Imperial took 16th place, improving greatly on last year's standings in the same competition. In the scoring rulebook, the goal of this particular activity is to push the boundaries of theatrics and music, while maintaining the integrity and poise of a performing ensemble. This is what attracted me personally to the activity, and knowing how well this allows me to fulfill our great object makes me want to stick around as long as I can, and share my experiences with all brothers, past, present and future!

John Paddie

Fall 2008



The James and Nancy Gaertner Performing Arts Center

This last semester Sam Houston State University was proud to open The James and Nancy Gaertner Performing Arts Center. As brothers we were glad to say we were a part of breaking the new building as many of the brothers had the great opportunity to play in the amazing 800 seat concert hall and 150 seat recital hall. The brothers also got involved in making sure there were enough ushers at each performance in the building by being volunteer ushers for every performance. If you have not had the opportunity to see this wonderful building, we encourage you to come visit and see what a great thing we have been so fortunate to receive.

If you have any questions of when there will be events feel free to email me at dfm003@shsu.edu, or go to the school website and there is a list of performances.



A New Members Outlook on his Rush Experience

When I first came to Sam Houston State University, I did not know much about Phi Mu Alpha. As the marching season went by, I noticed that there were a couple of Brothers in the trombone section. I told them I was interested and they told me to come to one of the rush events that week. When I arrived at Kate Barr Ross later that week, I was welcomed with open arms. I knew right then and there I wanted to become a Sinfonian. I was disappointed however due to the fact I could not rush without a SHSU GPA. However, I told them I would be back next semester. As the spring semester came I came out again to the rush events. I was so excited to finally have a chance to rush Phi Mu Alpha. As my PM process began, I began to feel closer to my soon to be Brothers in the Pi Class. Throughout the PM process, I have learned so much about the Brotherhood and how as Brothers, we act as a family. We may have our disagreements from time to time, but we are always there for each other.

OAS AAS LLS

Randy Laran

Fall 2010



Pi Class at the Recital they gave.
From L to R: Randy Laran, Nathan Wood, David Spence, Stefan Murat, Louie Pardo, and Franklin Nevlud



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Our website is

<http://pmasinfonyzetamu.webs.com/>



A Message to Alumni

Brothers,

As the Alumni Relations Officer for the Zeta Mu chapter of Phi Mu Alpha I am very happy to be writing to you. It has been a great year thus far and I hope that the year will continue to be a productive and fruitful one.

The Spring semester looks to be an awesome semester as we continue to get to use the new fabulous performing arts center. I am encouraging you to come and visit your Alma Mater and check out the great things going on in the school and in our fraternity. We would love to meet you and be connected to you.

This last Spring we had an Alumni BBQ and had a pretty good turnout but I feel we could do better. I am challenging you as brothers to come back to Sam Houston to meet us and support your old fraternity.

We would love to hear from any alumni and if you are interested in getting more involve we have a new website. The website is <http://pmasinfonyzetamu.webs.com/>. We encourage you to take a look at the site to see the things we are doing.

OAS AAS LLS David Martin

P. S.- Send any contact information updates to Bruce Hall at lib_bdh@shsu.edu



Singing at the Alumni BBQ