

THE SAMFONIAN

The Official Alumni Newsletter of the Zeta Mu Chapter Volume: 8 Number: 2 April 2012



The Object of this Fraternity shall be for the development of the best and truest fraternal spirit; the mutual welfare and brotherhood of musical students; the advancement of music in America and a loyalty to the Alma Mater.

A MESSAGE FROM THE ALUMNI RELATIONS OFFICER

Brothers,

Greetings from Zeta Mu! I hope all is well in your daily lives.

This is a special mail out of The Samfonian as this is the first time we are mailing out a copy to the new charter as part of an effort to reconnect with those brothers. It is important that that if you were in 2000 or later that you fill out the return card so we have a valid information from you.

As always this is a busy time of year with many events happening. We have recently presented Jazz Trombonist Bill Watrous with the Orpheus award, preparing two Mills Music Missions, as well as an American Musicale. Of course we will be having an Alumni event this semester and you can see more information on page three.

This will be me last message to you all as my term as Alumni Relations Officer has come to an end. It has truly been a joy serving the fraternity in this role. I have had the pleasure of meeting many alumni from Zeta Mu as well as hearing stories from the old days. I believe I have met my goals during my term and would like to leave you with these last words. Once always long live!

Take Care Brothers, In Fraternal Spirit of
Phi Mu Alpha
Alex Villarreal

Alumni Relations Officer

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As the long day closes and my term as President comes to an end, I have much to reflect upon, much to be thankful for and much to be hopeful for. I grew so much as a leader, an idea catalyst, and a brother. I am so grateful for the opportunity my brothers at Zeta Mu gave me. Ideas swarmed my head but it was with some of my brothers more grounded way of thinking that ideas became realities. My drive to accomplish things only became more focused as the months passed. I learned to delegate and trust my brothers, something I didn't do off the bat in the beginning of my term. I was able to put my perfectionist inclinations to the side and bring out the team leader in me much more often. It was awesome!

We have revived our Mills Music Mission efforts and continue to see that this becomes a part of every semester. At this year's Province Workshop we received a citation award in every category and our own Chase Giddings won the Province contest and a trip to National Convention. During the 3rd Annual Bill Watrous Jazz Festival we presented Bill Watrous with the Orpheus Award which he was honored to receive.

What will I walk away with? Confidence, memories of our revival of the MMM at Zeta Mu, memories of Recitals that have never sounded better at our chapter, awards upon awards for the many achievements Zeta Mu accomplished, laughs, tears, hugs and an array of skills needed to reach any goal I set for myself.

-Stewart D. Gaitan

(President of PMA – Zeta Mu)



ALUMNI COOKOUT

Once again we will have our Alumni Cookout on April 28th at 3:00pm at 2456 Montgomery Rd. Huntsville TX, 77340. Last semester was our largest turnout of alumni brothers so come on out and let's have an even larger turnout! We will have chicken and sausage along with some sides and dessert. There will be several concerts at Performing Arts Center that you can take advantage of for those of you have not seen the new building yet. Also we will have our initiation ritual that night at 10:00pm.



3RD ANNUAL BILL WATROUS JAZZ FESTIVAL

One thing has remained through many years and has grown along with SHSU. The SHSU Jazz Festival has been continually producing music for 52 years. With the recent director of jazz studies, Aric Schneller, the festival has reached a new high with it being renamed The Bill Watrous Jazz Festival after the famous jazz trombonist and friend of Schneller's. With the addition of a second day with 33 bands from the surrounding areas coming to perform at the festival, the festival is coming back to what it was many years ago.



(Bill Watrous and President Gaitan with the Orpheus award.)

Also to add to the success of the festival the Jazz Ensemble just recently performed at the TMEA Convention in February making it the second time in 10 years the band has performed there and with the recording made at that concert the band is applying to go to the Midwest clinic. In the next few years Schneller is quoted saying, "I want to take this festival and this band to a new level. The next step is Midwest and getting an endowment for the festival to take it to new heights and make it a bigger event."

He also talked about his plan to create a program in which kids from all over would audition to be in a road band that records an album and travel the country every summer that would be sponsored by SHSU. Great things are going on with this program and will be for the years to come.

Fraternally yours,

David F. Martin

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday April 19th Jazz Concert
Saturday April 20th Symphonic
Band
Wednesday April 25th Wind
Ensemble
Wednesday April 25th-28th
Contemporary Music Festival

Thursday April 26th Houston
Symphony
Saturday April 28th Symphony
Orchestra
Saturday April 28th Alumni Event
3pm
Saturday April 28th Initiation Ritual
10pm

**All Concert times are 7:30pm and located in the James and Nancy Gaetner Performing Arts Center

UPSILON CLASS I S HERE

Our newest Probationary Class is more than excited to have made it halfway through their process. These eight guys are working diligently to earn their opportunity to become brothers in our Fraternity. A few of them had the Object memorized the next day after being installed! Jack McQueen knocked out the exam on his first try. Needless to say these guys are going the extra mile to learn as much as they can as quick as they can. Not only are they getting their work done but they are also spending time together as a class as well as with the brothers. There have been several football games involving both probationary members and actives. If all goes well these young men will be initiated Saturday April 28th 2012 and they cannot wait to crossover.



(From left to right Juan Polanco, Brian Bolen, Paul Fetes, Leonard Castleberry, Chris Davis, Travis Michna, Jack McQueen, Donovan Thomas)

Keep us Updated!!!

Brothers help us stay in contact with you so we know how you are doing and what you are up to. Send us your most up to date contact information and maybe a little bit about what you are up to these days so we know what you are going these days. We appreciate everything you have done for this chapter and would not likely be here without your help. You can update your information by visiting the Zeta Mu website www.pmazetamu.org or email the Alumni Relations Officer at aro@pmazetamu.org



Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Zeta Mu
Sam Houston State University
Box 2208
Huntsville TX 77341

Together Brothers!!!

**Once A
Sinfonian**

**Always a
Sinfonian**

Long Live

Sinfonia!!!!