

**PHI SIGMA DELTA OF ZETA BETA TAU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**  
**July, 2024 VOL. XXXI NO, I**

**Brotherhood**- is not a one-year commitment, it is a life-time commitment.... We took an oath to remain brothers. An oath is something that cannot be taken back, that's what makes it an oath. Some of us have outgrown pounding down beers but you can never outgrow your commitment and the bonds of brotherhood.

Our younger selves were wise beyond their years. We took an oath of brotherhood, not realizing the impact that oath would have on our own lives and the lives of those around us. To fully appreciate the definition of Brotherhood, you need to experience it. We have had years to let the meaning of Brotherhood sink in, and while I know that it holds a special place in all of our hearts, the true impact is quite personal. The oath is one-of-a-kind and we can thank our younger selves for setting us down this path. I urge each of you to take a moment to reflect on what Brotherhood means to you.

**FROM THE PRESIDENT:**

**Reunion update.** Our 2024 reunion is scheduled for Sept 6-8 at the campus hotel in Amherst. If you are planning to attend, **please send Stan \$30/person to cover the reunion cost.**

**Stan Kittredge**  
**399 Old Farm Road**  
**Franklin, MA 02038**

Also please let Stan know if you plan to attend the house meeting and breakfast, and dinners on Friday and Saturday nights as we try to get an approximate headcount.

We are planning to honor all of our Master Fraters and Alumni Presidents whose superior leadership skills brought us to today. If you served as a Master Frater, or Alumni President, this would be a great opportunity to visit campus again and be honored for the special service you provided us. I have attached a list of all of the officers that have served the Chapter and the Alumni. Please send me any corrections.

For those arriving early Gerry & Ralph are hosting drinks in RALPH'S ROOM and leaving around 6:00 for the Worcester Dining Hall

Our wonderful reunion committee has made the following plans for us. Here is their report. Please join us.

**FRIDAY BEFORE DINNER MEET IN THE HOTEL LOBBY:**

- Friday buffet dinner is 6-9pm at Bistro 63 (63 North Pleasant St.) in our own private room with our own private bar. ALL MEALS ARE PAY AS YOU GO.
- Saturday at 6-9, we have a buffet dinner in our private room/bar, Hadley room at the UMass Hotel where we are all staying.
- Saturday breakfast meeting is in the same space **\*\*Note: we are hosting a Zoom call simultaneously for those that cannot attend in person. Details are at bottom of newsletter.\***
- Saturday afternoon will include the FREE optional tour (arranged by John Cycz and Vinny Grandonico). John and Vinny are arranging our Saturday DRIVE BY tour of the House at 367

North Pleasant Street, the campus, including the Athletic facilities, etc. They are arranging for a student guide and means of transporting us.

Also, for those who want to try student dining for Saturday lunch or early arrival meals on Thursday, or Sunday pre-departure meals, the Dining Commons is nearby and their food is amazing.

Room rates are Thursday night \$179: Fri & Sat nights \$209. There are also suites available for each night at \$309. Parking on the second level of the garage is the easiest access to the hotel lobby.

This is the hotel link to reserve rooms. It works great. I have reserved a King (naturally) room for Thurs to Sat. Come early. Drinks on me.

Hotel reservation link: <https://www.reseze.net/servlet/SendPage?hotelid=1760&skipfirstpage=true&page=820113>

**Annual Dues.** Dues are still \$10.00. Best buy in any town. Our esteemed Treasurer, Stan, appreciates all who send in their dues in advance of the Reunion. In addition to covering the expenses of operating our Association, the annual dues also fund our scholarship fund. We now give out \$250 to each recipient and so far, we have awarded 87 scholarships. Many Brothers send in additional funds with designations to use for the scholarship fund, or, just "treasurer's discretion".

Before I let you go, I have a couple of thoughts to share with you.

Do you remember.....?

Back in the 1960's, you could buy life insurance policies at the airport terminal. It was available in some kind of vending machine for as little as \$2.50 paid with quarters. THERE WERE 4 KNOWN COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS BLOWN UP WITH INSURANCE FRAUD AS THE MOTIVATOR FOR EACH.

Some ordinary words have extraordinarily vague meanings but arrive disguised with absolute intent. Listen to people talk. Read what is written. These are my choices for **BIG** words.

**Almost.** e.g. I almost arrived on time. Well, you didn't.

**Always.** e.g. I always arrive on time. Always is a word with no meaning. I cannot think of any context where it can be correctly used.

Then they use these two together in a diphthong with less meaning than a thong thingy covers. e.g. I almost always arrive on time. Try never next time.

**Never.** e.g. Wife to husband "You never take out the trash". That's a BIG word, never. Use with caution.

**Usually.** This is a great word because it turns any statement into a non-statement. e.g. We usually do this every time. Huh? WTF does that even mean?

**Every.** e.g. You do this every time.

**Sometimes.** This is one of those words that can mean once, a hundred, or any other measure. e.g. Sometimes I forget my shopping list. Totally meaningless in an analytical way.

**Permanently.** e.g. Are you moving to Texas permanently? Eesh, there is a scary thought. What a big word that is.

**Absolutely.** e.g. I absolutely, almost always, and usually never, but sometimes, and often permanently, take my leave!

**That's Why I Am and Continue To Be**

**TheOneTheOnlyRalfooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo**

**FROM THE TREASURER:**

I want this newsletter to be a reminder of the reunion just 7 weeks away. Also, I want to direct my comments to those of you who have never been to a reunion and those we have not seen in awhile. Those that attend ask for a reunion each year so we must be on to something. I've been saying for awhile "I'm not sure how many we have left in us" so please consider a trip to Amherst, renew some old acquaintances, tell a few stories and have some laughs.

You have my address for reunion, dues and scholarship donations.

Scholarship applications are on the web site [phisig.atspace.com](http://phisig.atspace.com) and should be submitted by the 8:00 Saturday meeting---Stan

**ZOOM CALL DETAILS:**

We are planning a Zoom call for those of you who cannot make the Saturday 8:00 a.m. Meeting. Those of you on the West Coast will have to get up early but if you are like me, you'll be up anyway taking a pee.

Topic: Phi Sigma Zoom Meeting

Time: Sep 7, 2024 08:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83488270270?pwd=G0eZbQblsHjKLDYkbURiOxvpc1vrCx.1>

Meeting ID: 834 8827 0270

Passcode: 211885

---

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,83488270270#,,,,\*211885# US (New York)

+16469313860,,83488270270#,,,,\*211885# US

---

Dial by your location

- +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
- +1 646 931 3860 US
- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 360 209 5623 US
- +1 386 347 5053 US
- +1 507 473 4847 US
- +1 564 217 2000 US
- +1 669 444 9171 US
- +1 689 278 1000 US
- +1 719 359 4580 US
- +1 720 707 2699 US (Denver)
- +1 253 205 0468 US
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 834 8827 0270

Passcode: 211885

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/keIDY9D1VG>