

## September 2000 Newsletter

**Phi Sigma Delta of Zeta Beta Tau  
UMass Alumni Association  
Fall 2000 Newsletter  
Vol: XI No: II**

By: Stan Kittredge

Thanks go to all of you who have responded to our newsletters. It is especially gratifying to see and hear from those brothers we do not see or hear from on a regular basis. This newsletter contains several significant announcements. Please read on:

From the President: Vin Grandonico

Brothers,

I hope this letter finds you all healthy, happy and prosperous.

When we elected association President, one of my first goals was to investigate an electronic means to facilitate communication amongst us. I am happy to say that we are proceeding in that direction. I am working with the UMass Alumni Relations Office and have volunteered to create a Phi Sigma Delta Alumni web site. This is a free service offered to our organization. While not pretending to be a "web master," I hope to soon roll out a Phi Sigma Delta/Zeta Beta Tau alumni home page with email, calendar, and newsletter functions. More elaborate features exist for future consideration. If any of you would like to assist me in the construction of our site, please call (413) 587-2123 (W), (413) 665-4792 or email me at [v.grandonico@umassp.edu](mailto:v.grandonico@umassp.edu). Once the site is built, I will announce the address.

On a mournful note, I want to announce the passing of Mike's Westview Café, which recently went out of business. I know many of you will observe a moment of silence upon learning of this sad event.....

Personally, I finally got to hold an Olympic Gold Medal! As a member of the UMass Sports Luncheon Committee, I recently spoke with Danielle "Harry" Henderson, one of several UMass athletes/coaches to participate in the Sydney games. Danielle, UM '99 and National Player of the Year, was a member of the USA Softball team. She pitched a two-hit shutout over Cuba. I mention this to you to extend an open invitation to any of you who might be on campus on any Wednesday from September - May, as that is the day of the weekly sports luncheons, typically held in Room 1009 of the Campus Center.

Lastly, I want to acknowledge the unending work of Stan Kittredge. He is a tireless and dedicated worker and no one better exemplifies the spirit of a fraternal organization than Stan does. No matter what your level of involvement in alumni activities, I hope you appreciate his unselfish and continuing efforts on our behalf.

Fraternally,

- Vin Grandonico, '73

From the Theta Alpha Alumni Chairman: Daniel Springer '02

It is truly an honor to have held this position for over a year as the chapter and our alumni have grown closer. The fall term is coming to an end and we here at UMass would like to update you on our life as well as our attempts to bring our brotherhood closer to yours. In the past few months we have seen some great changes in the brotherhood including a major shift in our executive board, our initiation of ten new brothers and of course the chartering of the Beta Tau Colony to the Theta Alpha Chapter.

Our roots have been laid in the community, both UMass and the town of Amherst. With a strong framework of participation and awareness, ZBT on campus considers itself to be one of the model fraternities. We are proud of what we have done for the area through service events and inter-Greek relations. I will just brush up on what we have done in the past months to build our reputation.

Continuing our S.A.T.T. program in Amherst has been both an honor and a privilege. This program, Seniors and Teens Together, has gotten us both recognition and awards and will be a mainstay in community service events for years to come. Another event the fraternity has participated in was Shelter Sunday, a day designated by the area to collect charity for the homeless. We understand the importance of branching out and making ties in the Amherst area.

Our current residence at 15 Fearing Street has been beneficial for rush as well as brotherhood gatherings. Though it is not a fraternity house, it has proven to be a central place to meet and educate the brotherhood about present and past history as well as giving us great hope to the future. The ten new brothers have gone through a Brotherhood Development Program devised by our brothers. This program has done a great job in bringing them together as a class and the fraternity together as a whole.

We can not repeat enough how proud we are to be the Theta Alpha Chapter here at UMass. The brothers put many hours in to receive the charter, which will be presented to us on December 10th. The brothers of Theta Alpha would like to invite you all to attend our brunch at the Union Street Restaurant from 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. on that day. The brunch will be followed by a chartering ceremony, recognizing past and present achievements of ZBT here at UMass. All we ask is that you donate \$20 per person to our fraternity to cover expenses. We wish to share this day with family, friends, and all brothers, current and past. Remember, you are part of us and your attendance would both be an honor and a privilege to our brotherhood. Please RSVP with donation to Ben Gold c/o Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity at 15 Fearing St. Amherst, MA 01002.

So that is it from here at UMass and from me as your ZBT, Theta Alpha Alumni representative. It truly was an experience working with and getting to meet you all and I hope the ties will only grow in the next term and beyond. Thank you for all your support thus far.

Cordially, Fraternaly, and Sincerely,

Daniel "Kool-Aid" Springer

Theta Alpha Chapter, UMass

**Deltan now on the Internet:**

The national newsletter, "The Deltan," is now on the Internet. Check it out at: <http://www.zbt.org>. Also check out Nationals' web site at the same web address.

**Summer 2000 Reunion:**

Last summer's reunion at the Kittredge house was well represented and a number of brothers we have not seen for awhile showed up or sent regards. Association President, Vin Grandonico, presided over our annual business meeting, during which our brothers voted to extend an invitation to all graduating ZBT UMass Alumni. Darren Green '00 and Adam Michals '00, among the first of the graduates from the new Chapter, immediately accepted our invitation.

**Homecoming 2000:**

Our undergraduates hosted this year's homecoming at UMass. At the tailgate party a number of alumni were present, including one of the founding fathers of our Alpha My chapter, Dave Hautanen. Dave and I have met since that date and he has provided me with the names and addresses of a number of the brothers from the early days of Alpha Mu. This newsletter will be going out to those new addresses and once the guys respond I will add them to our current address list. Thanks go out to the Chapter for providing the burgers and hosting us again this year.

**Undergraduate news:**

The undergraduates have worked hard over the last two years to build a reputation and to recruit new members. They sincerely want all of our alumni to feel welcome and part of the Chapter. Several members and I will attend the chapter chartering ceremony on December 10th. I encourage everyone to extend support by attending and show these young men that fraternity is forever. More information on this event appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

**Supreme Council approves charter of UMass colony:**

Two years after founding a colony at UMass, the Zeta Beta Tau Supreme Council approved the colony's application for full chapter status and will charted the Theta Alpha chapter. All Phi Sigma Delta and Zeta Beta Tau Alumni are invited to the December 10th ceremony and celebration.

**Sobel Award:**

ZBT has recognized the UMass chapter as the chapter exercising the best efforts to improve its academic standing on campus.

Fraternally,

Stan [kitco1@comcast.net](mailto:kitco1@comcast.net)