

OXIDENTALS

Reunion

BGSU

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'Sixty-Something Reunion' A Smash!

So—Where To 'Next Time'?

Even as the Reunion ended, there was much talk of "the next time."

Borrowing an idea from Gerald De Gennaro, whose Ashtabula High School class gathers periodically and informally at various places around the country, the attendees endorsed a similar approach for future Theta Chi reunions.

A majority favored getting together again as early as next October, in order to preserve the momentum just created.

Effective immediately, Chairman-In-Perpetuity Bill Kopper is accepting recommendations for the October 2001 site. Some criteria to consider:

- Convenient to a majority of the Brotherhood (see map on Page 4).
- Space for maximum focus on total-group gatherings (a la The Linck Inn).
- Minimum external diversions (often mentioned Las Vegas scores low on this count).

• A "new/novel" site (a challenge, given our well-traveled Brotherhood).
Nominations are now open...

One Sad Note Amid The Joy

If there was one sad note at the Reunion (besides the roll call of our deceased Brothers), it was the recent demise of our Gamma Mu Chapter on camp.

Few even mentioned the matter during the joyous hours together, but all were well aware of having lost the very roots and reason for our deep feelings of Brotherhood.

A fraternity row with no Theta Chi! The hallowed House now a sterile, bureaucratic Social Policy Center! A brief tour only heightened the pain.

Despite its unwelcome remodel, the classic brick structure still harbors the "ghosts" of rush parties, pledge lineups, mixers, late-Saturday-night living room hijinx—and much more—from our past. Those who toured her swear they "heard" and "saw" those powerful apparitions.

Our will to revive the glory that was Gamma Mu—for us and for future generations—should be addressed when we gather again.

For now, Chairman Kopper reports that David Westol, Executive Director of

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Oct. 6-8 Pictorial + Pages 2 & 3



Class Of '60 Leads

A total of 66 Brothers and significant others attended all or part of the three-day Reunion of the Classes of '58-'63. The Class of '60—annointed by none other than Rush Meister Bob Rask as "the best ever"—led with 19 attendees:

- '58 (11): Marv Bihn, Dr. Tom Kinstle, Dick Schuckers, Chuck Richey, Doug Eggleston, Marv Winans, Dick Engle, Ed Lauber, Al Reinke, Rik Laiho, Jim Huffman.

- '59 (6): Gerry DeGennaro, Dave Riggs, Bob Rask, Ron Jones, Jack Richert, Gerry Greenway.

- '60: Nick DelCalzo, Morrie Sanderson, Dave Kraig, Tom Gaertner, Bob Frost,

Dave Zaylor, Bob Wolfe, Len Colagrossi, Pat Young, Larry Coffman, Bruce Bertsch, Dick Rice, Bob Bigelow, Gene Wilson, Gerry Smetzer, Dave Stickler, Les DeGennaro, Bill Kopper, Bob Miller.

- '61 (4): Dale Ford, Jim Brown, Jim Fluke, Neil (Buck) Meinke.

- '62-'63 (6): John Eakins, Bob Wolf, Dale Janowski, Fred Costin, Bob Heckman.

At the Saturday night dinner, a moment of silence was observed for the following deceased Brothers: Ed Anzalono, Don Congdon, Frank Cuzolo, Dr. David Dyer, Keith Lair, Bill Lowe, Chuck Ney, Jay Sanford, Ron Singel, Herb Zimmer.

Some Things Never Change...

At first re-meeting, 40 years of changes in physical features momentarily masked the mental image we all had of one another from those distant days.

But, in a matter of minutes, the mannerisms and a closer look at each countenance betrayed any amount of physical metamorphosis...

R. Morse Sanderson's slightly crinklier smile, as he looked you in the eye while doing his patented two-finger adjustment to his now-oval, black-rimmed glasses as you talked... Buck Meinke's eyes disappearing into two horizontal slits above his ever-present grin... Dave Stickler's, hearty, cackle-like laugh... Bob Rask's

loose, backward-leaning gait and commanding presence... Gerry Greenway's booming, in-your-face pronouncements on even the most minor of matters... Marv Bihn's ever-observant manner and ascerbic wit... Big Al Reinke's self-effacing and solicitous demeanor... Bob Wolf's mischievous mindset... Dick Schuckers' wide-mouth, "aw shucks" grin... Those who attended can add dozens of their own examples, to be sure.

At Reunion's end, the mental image one brought of each and every Brother was solidly intact. The tiger may have morphed, but the "stripes"—thankfully and inevitably—remain.

Neither Rain, Nor Hail, Nor...

The surprising mix of rain, hail and chill wind that swept over Doyt Perry Stadium on Reunion Saturday was enough to dampen the spirits of a less-hearty band of revelers—but *not* the Men of Theta Chi!

No amount of atmospheric adversity could blunt the Brotherly momentum gained during the Friday night fest at The Linck Inn in Maumee, where "Who's that guy who just walked in over there?" was the predominant pub game for the first two hours.

But that "game" soon gave way to telescoping +/-40 years of career/family/health/travel history into mere minutes—time-after-time—with each new and exciting encounter.

It was a natural high (all the alcohol notwithstanding), induced by reviving long-ago friendships after four decades of deprivation.

Still "charged" from the Friday night experience, the Brethren gather before noon, on that weather-challenged Saturday, at the Theta Chi tent to stage their segue into the stadium, bolstered by the Spartan brown-bag lunch, a couple of beers, and the aroma of "brauts" emanating from nearby tents.

The game? Let's just say it was a far cry from the halcyon years of stadium namesake Perry, Bob Colburn, Bernie Casey, Bob Zimpfer, et al., when we were there, and BG ruled the MAC.

A lame-duck coach and an equally lame offense found a way to run the Falcons' record to 1-and-5, losing 27-20 to the appropriately named Akron U. "Zips"—to make matters worse.

But the best was yet to come...

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Directory!

Enclosed with the OXidentals is the new Directory. It shows that some 149 Brothers have been located. Some 46 attended the Reunion, 18 brought their wives, two brought pinmates (whatever happened to the PinInHouse Ratings?). A total of 38 Brothers said they had other commitments, 43 are "lost" and 12 who were contacted decided not to reply at all. The 10 deceased are listed above left. Contact Kopper with any additions or corrections (419-841-5353) or on the OXNET (wakopper@aol.com).

Reunion Pictorial

Page 1 Photos: A svelte and swarthy Gerald "Dege" DeGennaro poses by the signature Reunion banner outside The Linck Inn on Friday night. At lower left, Chairman Bill Kopper emcees the Saturday night soiree in Maumee. And, at lower right, Bob Heckman shares a "one-minute memory" with his assembled Brothers on Saturday night, employing his IBM-honed presentation skills.



Theta Chi's version of the Blues Brothers—Jim Huffman & Len Colagrossi—were imposing Friday-night "greeters."



Bob Rask, left, holding court on Friday night with, left to right, Larry Coffman, Bob Frost, Morrie Sanderson, Nick DelCalzo and Bob & Sandy Heckman. (That's Chief Maumee lurking behind Bob.)



From left, Big Al Reinke swaps lies with Dick Schuckers & Chuck Richey (who did have a drink, but didn't want to betray his enduring All-American image for the photo-op).



Marv Bihn, left, sits with "Red" (hair and sweater) Engle and Dick's wife, Ruth Ann. (Marv appears to be fully into in his ever-observant mode.)



Some people actually ate Friday night. Feasting, from left, Doug Eggleston, Betty Huffman, Jim Huffman and Judy (Beatty) Eggleston.



At left, Chairman "Kops" revives the HOYA tradition enroute to the game Saturday. Above, Chuck (in sunglasses) Richey and Gene Wilson brave the chill outside the OX tent before the game. Below, "Ban Boys" freeze them off on metal benches at game.



Above, huddling for warmth inside the tent, from left, Tom Gaertner (hat in background), Dale Janowski, Buck Meinke, Bob Frost and Dave Kraig. Below, the cold clouds over Doyt Perry Stadium—where the Falcon footballers were "Zipped."

