



# The TAPROOT

News for Tau Phi Delta Alumni

www.tauphidelta.org

Volume 4

Fall 2007



## Tau Phis Return For Centennial And Reunion

The weekend of April 27–29 found many Tau Phi Deltas returning to State College to celebrate 100 years of forestry education at Penn State and to renew relationships with their former professors and classmates, and Brothers and Little Sisters alike.

The School of Forest Resources (SFR) Centennial Celebration included a reception and centennial tree planting at the new Forest Resources building on Friday evening; field trips and campus tours on Saturday; a banquet at the Nittany Lion Inn on Saturday night; and a nondenominational service and brunch on Sunday.

The Forest Resources Building was the center of activities on Saturday. There was a student Woodsman Team demonstration, barbecue, face painting and games for kids, a quiz bowl pitting students, alumni and faculty against each other, and visits by the Smokey the Bear and the Nittany Lion. There also was a silent auction and raffle of a framed limited-edition Dan Christ print “Lion Tracks” featuring an eastern mountain lion overlooking the Penn’s Creek in



**Tau Phi Deltas enjoying a great dinner under the tent.**

nearby Poe Valley of Centre County (See page 15).

The final registration count for the Centennial Celebration was 489 alumni, faculty, students and friends. There were other university officials, alums, spouses and friends that did not register, but did stop by to say “Hello” throughout the weekend so the attendance was well over 500. The turnout far exceeded the attendance at any of the Annual SFR Alumni and Friends Banquets in the past 10 years and exceeded the turnout for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the then School of Forestry in 1957.

Tau Phi Deltas helped to make the

Centennial Celebration a success. Chuck Strauss, Director of the School of Forest Resources, was the driving force behind the new Forest Resources building that was showcased during the Centennial. Chuck and Tom Yorke served on the Centennial Planning Committee, which made preparations for the Centennial during the three years prior to the celebration. Chuck and Tom also served as Co-Masters of Ceremonies of the Centennial Banquet. Brs. Frank Judd, Greg Shrum, Mark Webb, and Tom Yorke were members of the Board of Directors of the School

**See Tau Phis return, page 5**

### INSIDE :

- 2 Active's Report
- 3 Major Improvements
- 4 Memories of Mont Alto
- 6 Tau Phis in the Great Outdoors
- 8 Alumni Updates

**Don't miss Homecoming at TΦΔ  
October 13, 2007**

## News From The Alpha Chapter

By Br. Joshua Gallaher, Phi (Spring `05)

I hope this issue of *The Taproot* newsletter finds you all well. As always, the summer months seem to fly by and fall is upon us before we know it. Things have been very busy at the Tau Phi Delta fraternity house throughout the last few months.

This fall, Tau Phi Delta has 26 active brothers and 1 border/pledge. Pledging begins later this semester and will not start until October 4. The house GPA for the spring 2007 semester was a reputable 2.93. The actives have a full schedule throughout the fall semester — including the beginning of hunting season, intramural sports, some minor exterior house improvements, wood cutting party, philanthropy, community service, and, of course, academics. We plan on it being a very productive schedule too.

The interior of the House has taken on a new look over the last few months thanks to the generous support of many of our alumni Brothers! The sprinkler system installation is completed and it is now functional. The first and second floor bathrooms, laundry room, and plumbing are being remodeled along with the bathroom in the Phi's suite.



**The bathroom in Phi's Suite was renovated by Brother Gallaher and his dad. What? No pink tiles!**

In addition to those improvements, the fireplace wall in the chapter room was remodeled with local mountain stone and a new mantel was hung. This project was spearheaded by expert masonry skills of Br. Nick Spinelli with the assistance of Br. Mitch Vowler.



**Our new mountain stone fireplace.**

For their pledge project, the Spring `07 class removed the aging split rail fence and gate surrounding the backyard and built a new fence and gate. This was a great improvement to the House and it makes the backyard look more respectable.

Please note that this year's Fall Homecoming is on Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. The Board of Directors' fall meeting will be held at 10:00 am. Following the meeting, an Indian Summer-style cookout lunch will be provided with hamburgers and hot dogs at Tau Phi Delta for all Brothers and their family and guests.

The Nittany Lions take on the Wisconsin Badgers at 3:30 p.m. Due to the game time, a dinner at the House will not be provided on Saturday evening. However, all alumni are welcome to return to help celebrate another PSU Big Ten victory!

# The **Taproot**

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# Major Improvements at 427 East Fairmount

By Br. Chris “Zoo” Kamzalow, Board of Directors - Phi (Spring `95 – Alpha)

The Alumni Board of Directors and Actives at the House have been very busy since the beginning of 2007 — especially during the last couple of months. The sprinkler system has now been installed and is fully functioning.

We are also currently near completion of re-doing both the first and second floor bathrooms. This was a major project involving completely gutting both bathrooms and then basically re-building them using industrial grade materials.

The contractor that we hired to do the bathroom project worked on the second floor bathroom and once the second floor bathroom was completed they moved to the first floor bathroom. This way there was at least one bathroom working at all times. Our plan was to have both bathrooms completed by the time the Actives start classes, or shortly thereafter. We also had the contractor install a much-needed floor drain in the laundry room, this should resolve the problem of water flowing into the Chapter Room when the washers overflow. Hopefully the ceiling will be replaced soon after, to complement some of the nice improvements recently made by the Actives to the Chapter Room — including a new stone facing and wood mantel to the original brick fireplace.

Of course these two projects are not free! The sprinkler system alone cost us nearly \$70,000. The bathroom project will cost us close to \$80,000. But with the help of Br. Bob McColly, the BOD has taken on a \$50,000 loan for the Bathroom Project and we also used \$25,000 from the Endowment Fund (which was built up from previous Brothers' donations), with a 20 percent contingency, just in case we needed it.

The BOD has been active in calling on individual Brothers and sending out letters to help raise money specifically for the bathroom project. I want to personally thank all of the Brothers who responded and have made generous donations or pledges to this important project. I also want to reach out to all of you that have not made any contributions at all and please consider making a donation or pledge to the Bathroom Project or other commitments to the Endowment Fund. There'll be something about this in your mailbox in the near future.

If you have been to the House in the last couple of years, then you know that the bathrooms needed fixed. Many pledges classes over the decades have done repair work to the bathrooms. Those quick fixes worked for a while, however the bathrooms got to a state that repairs/patches were not going to work. Basically, the age of the bathrooms had finally caught up with the House and that is why we decided to have an outside contractor come in and re-do the bathrooms properly.

I encourage you to make a trip to State College and stop by the House. I think you will be surprised at the improvements that have been made in the last few years. Listed below are just a few of the positive things that are happening at Tau Phi Delta:

- Creation of the Endowment Fund (Currently with a balance of \$90,000).
- Sprinkler systems installed and working properly to meet required Borough Code.
- Paid off the loan for the “old” kitchen.
- New industrial-style kitchen has been installed.
- Creation of the Annual Gun Raffle alumni fundraiser (Doubled our profit in two year's time).
- Scholarship Golf Tournament participation has grown (Gone up from an average of 35 golfers to over 80 golfers).

Hopefully with any luck, we'll be able to next list a substantial increase in alumni support with long-term financial pledges and donations!

I hope that y'all enjoy the rest of your Fall and hopefully we will see a lot of you at this year's Fall Homecoming.



## SUPPORTING THE TAPROOT

*The Taproot* is a newsletter for and about the alumni of Tau Phi Delta. It is part of the alumni commitment to get more involved in the House. We got off to a great start with the first three issues of *The Taproot*. We had many updates about our alums and numerous articles about Mont Alto, Tau Phis in the Great Outdoors, Forest Service connections, the new School of Forest Resources building, and House traditions such as black bear hunts and our philanthropic work and community service efforts.

We also had good financial support so the alumni newsletter was not a financial burden on the actives. Brothers Ed Balsavage, Mark Brunermer, and Chuck Strauss previously made significant contributions to pay for the printing and mailing in the first three years. We also received \$500 in donations this year during the Centennial and Reunion in April.

*The Taproot* costs about \$1,500 to print and mail to our alums, so even though we have a good financial situation for this issue, we can still use your help. We need both your financial and literary contributions to make will help *The Taproot* a continued success. Please see the insert for an opportunity to further support *The Taproot*.

## Memories from the Underbelly of Mont Alto – III

By Br. Brooke Thomas (Fall '59)

**Editor's Note:** Brooke wrote the following article about Mont Alto (we condensed it slightly) after attending a Tau Phi Delta reunion of the Brothers from the 1960's "so that the alumni who attended Mont Alto can relish the memories, and so those who graduated after the '60s will have an appreciation for our experiences at Mont Alto." This is the third part of his memories. The first two parts were published in Volumes 2 and 3 of *The Taproot*.

Under fire. When walking at night to the library in Science Hall it was strongly advised to "Stay on the path!" Some students had found out how to get to the roof of the building and used it as a staging area to shoot rabbits on the lawn.

Similarly while studying in the dorms a shot would ring out – usually fired right through the screen – and some questionable "game" animal would go bottoms up on the driveway. Ing, a brilliant marksman and questionable student, had a one-armed roommate called Joe who would shiny up the drain pipe to the second floor using his one remaining arm. During study breaks Ing would have Joe stand across the room next to the window. Joe would hold up an ace of spades in his only remaining hand. Ing, then, would take careful aim with a pistol and blam "plug" the spade right through the middle. The bullet would pass cleanly through the card with barely a wiggle, go out through the screen, and – with luck – onto eternity. The operation was far safer than it seemed for in order to protect his hand Joe would put on a leather work glove, making sure it fit snugly.

Kiss my axe. And then there was Vince Fung who was running low on

cash and bet the campus he could chop two holes in the ice at the head of the spillway and swim underwater from one end to the other. So eager (desperate) were we to see the pageant played out that no one took precautions for what might happen should he not surface. In any case, Vince earned about \$50 that day and showed us all how risk taking and petty capitalism might be imaginatively combined.

Finally, I recall late in the Spring, above intermittent small arms fire from the dorm, we heard a persistent chopping coming from the top of the hill. It finally stopped and was followed by the cry of "Timber!" then by a huge crash. Bud Brown had felled a big one: his way of taking a break while preparing for Mr. Gregory's ("and here we have our old standby NaCl") chemistry exam.



So these are a few of the memories I've retained from Mont Alto. As stories go some undoubtedly have been slightly embellished with constant retelling; also details from similar stories as in the case of firefighting have been merged into one. If it seems that I have been fascinated by the spectacular it is probably because these events were so different from what I had previously experienced. In suburbia and at private school you read about this stuff but never really participated in it. By bringing together 100 young men – with guns and a certain irreverence for systems of control – in a remote area of Pennsylvania I might have anticipated such happenings. Since I did not, the year at Mont Alto became an amazing sequence of discoveries about what was possible in life; both good and bad. I suspect they seeded my interest in anthropology; a fascination with peering beyond the curtain of normalcy and listening to the ideas of different

peoples.

I should probably be recounting more the fine and rigorous education I received, for a lot of the material has stayed with me and been useful. The professors were good and by and large generous with their time and ideas. Even our English professor, Chet Corson, who was thoroughly burned out, kept in there with his odd and endless correction symbols on our papers and the renegade books he assigned. Railroad tracks were a symbol most of us never did understand. His coffee stained tie and sagging pants reminded me of an academic who had stayed too long; take heed Brooke.

Willy Ward (WWW), our director, was an admirable man both professionally and personally. We all wanted to like him. Bud Brown (also a non-Pennsylvanian) and I went half way through WWW's forest products course before we figured out that "boorl styes" were actually dialect for barrel staves. It probably did no harm since boorl styes were on their way out no matter how you pronounced them.

I do wonder what happened to my double-bladed axe after I turned it in at the end of the school year. How many budding foresters had used it before and after me, and where are they now?

*Send us your favorite memory about Mont Alto Campus for a future issue of The Taproot. Whether you lived with the Conklin crazies, failed a dendro quiz, fought fires in South Mountain, or woke up with a hangover more than once on Pine Knob, we want to hear your tale.*

### "Tau Phis return" from page 1

of Forest Resources Alumni Group. Mark Webb organized and led the Sunday morning service. Earl Hower was instrumental in helping to make the silent auction and raffle during the Centennial a success. Combined, the auction and raffle raised over \$8,000, which will be used to support student organizations of the School of Forest Resources. Other Tau Phi Delts made contributions for the auction or provided support so students could attend the Centennial Banquet.



**Many new friends were made.**

The silent auction had its funny moments. Tom Yorke and Bob McColly were involved in a bidding war over a Joe Paterno-autographed football. Bob was on the Stone Valley tour near the end of the silent auction, but he had a surrogate placing bids for him. Tom kept topping Bob's bid and prevailed, and paid way too much for a football, when time ran out for Bob's surrogate to contact him about raising the bid. The next morning Bob met Tom in the lobby of the Nittany Lion Inn with a package under his arm. He told Tom, "You are giving Tau Phi Delts a bad reputation by being too nice a guy. I cannot accept this from you because I know how much you paid for it." Tom opened the package and found an imitation of the football that Tom had won. The imitation was signed by the famous "Joe Paterna."

Apparently, one of Bob's buddies had placed the package outside his room, and Bob had neglected to take a close look at his present.

The Centennial Celebration was special for Tau Phi Delta because we held a reception and dinner at the House on Friday night as part of the celebration. More than 100 active and alumni Brothers and spouses attended the reception in the House and the catered dinner with filet mignon that was served under a large white circus tent on the lawn. Jack Byerly organized the event and played "mother hen" to ensure that everyone found a seat and was served under the tent during a brief rain shower. Our special thanks goes out to Jack and the other Alums and Actives and Hoag Catering. The whole affair was great.

All the decades between the 1940s and 2000s, were represented at the Tau Phi Delta reunion. We had 4 alums from the '40s, 10 from the '50s, 22 from the '60s, 10 from the '70s, and a handful from the '80s, '90s, and '00s, respectively. More specifically, the Fall '61 pledge class had the most attendees, with 6 pledge mates returning. It was really great to see the older guys from the '40s: Norm Martin, Jim Nelson, Dean Quinney, and Hank Wessel. Dean hadn't been back to State College since the late 1950s, but we could tell by the constant smile that he really enjoyed himself.

Everyone enjoyed the reception and dinner, and there were many calls for "Let's do this again!"

**Editor's Note:** Some say the reason so many alums from pledge classes of the 1960s returned was because they have done it before. In 1997, a group of 15 Brothers from the late '50s and early '60s met for a weekend reunion in Colorado Springs, Colo. In summer of 2002, 80 Brothers and spouses from the '60s met for a weekend reunion in State College. Likewise, they were the driving force behind holding this House event during the SFR 100<sup>th</sup> weekend. Perhaps more groups of alumni Brothers ought to further organize and do the same?

### Golf Tourney Raises More Than \$1,500

The 81 Brothers and their friends who gathered on the greens of Standing Stone Golf Course in July for the 2007 Jim Evans Memorial Golf Tournament raised more than \$1,500. It was the second-best attendance on record.

Completing the course with a score of 64, the team of Brs. Mark Brunermer, Dave Eppinger, Jeff McElrath and Jim Stelter reclaimed the top spot on the leader board. The team took top honors in 2005 as well, but finished second by two strokes the following year. For their top performance, the members of the team took home framed prints of the 1986 Chesapeake Bay Conservation Stamp, "Chesapeake Cans" by Ken Carlson, featuring canvasback ducks floating in a secluded corner of the bay.

Three other prizes were awarded. Powering his way to first place in the Longest Drive contest was Br. Emery Petrof, while Br. Kevin Horner hit a very lucky shot to claim Closest to Pin. Br. Dave Nelson sank the Longest Putt.

Proceeds from the golf tournament directly fund the Jim Evans Memorial Scholarship, which is awarded each semester to Brothers who demonstrate outstanding merit in academics, sportsmanship and brotherhood. Brs. Nicholas Spinelli and Luke Ulsamer received \$500 scholarships funded by the 2006 tournament.

The 2008 Jim Evans Memorial Golf Tournament will take place July 12 at Standing Stone Golf Course, Huntington. Check the House website, [www.tauphidelta.org](http://www.tauphidelta.org), for more information or contact Tournament Chairman Adam Heggenstaller at (703) 624-0083 or [aheggenstaller@nrahq.org](mailto:aheggenstaller@nrahq.org).

## Tau Phis in the Great Outdoors

The forest and fields and fish-filled waters are our playground

*Editor's Note: This is a continuing feature of The Taproot — a place much like the oaken walls of our fraternity — where Brothers can share their successes and failures, in the great outdoors.*

### Hunting The Gams Of Germany

By Br. Barry Borgiet (Fall '61)

Gams is the German word for Chamois, a goat-like, cloven-hoofed animal in the Europe's Alpine region. In my opinion, hunting for the Gams is one of the most challenging and rewarding hunting experiences one can have.

The Gams have a light brown coat in the summer, and it changes to a dark, nearly black color in late fall. They live at moderately high altitudes and are adapted to steep, rugged, rocky terrain.



**Chamois (*Rupicapra rupicapra*)  
A.K.A. Der Gams**

I had previously taken a summer Gams, so I decided I would try to hunt winter Gams. Hunting arrangements for the Alpines of Bavaria are made by a jovial, rotund man named Walter Worbs. I called him in early August to discuss possible dates to hunt. He explained to me that the German Federal Forest Administration was trying to manage the Gams herd to minimize tree damage. Bavaria's State Forest Administration (*Landesforstver-*

*waltung*) had spent DM 40,000,000 (about \$55,000,000 in US) planting young trees and claimed the Gams were eating many of them.

They had devised a plan to keep the Gams away from the trees. This plan called for dividing the region's mountains into three vertical zones for game management. The bottom third would be for Roe Deer management, middle for the Red Deer, and the top for Gams. Of course the Gams didn't pay any attention to which third of the mountain they grazed on, so the plans changed by allowing the harvest of Gams from the unwanted zones. Walter said all the foresters, professional hunters, and the normal hunting guests were involved in the harvest. He said there was a strong possibility that they would complete their hunting quotas early, so the advise was not to wait for the winter.

So I opted to book a 3-day hunt in mid-September. Walter sent me all the paperwork telling me where my hunt would be and who my guide was. I was to hunt near Mittenwald, a picturesque Bavarian town just north of the Austrian border. I called my guide a week ahead of time to see if I needed to bring any special equipment or food. He told me we would be staying in a hunting cabin (*Das Jagdhutte*) and asked me if I had good mountain shoes and a rucksack. I had both, but asked him to bring an extra Bergstock (mountain stick) for me. This is an invaluable tool for mountain hunts. It is a stick about 2 meters long, cut from a Hazelnut sapling and is used for balance and support climbing up and down the mountain. It also can be used as a shooting stick for off-hand shots. Going downhill, one slings his rifle over his back and uses two hands on the stick pushing the

end at an angle into the hill and leaning on it for support.

I met my guide, Revierjagdmeister Hans Reiser, about 10 kilometers north of Mittenwald at 7:00am at the railway station in Klais. There was a shooting stand (range) just south of town. He had me shoot at a target at 100 meters from a rested, sitting position. He was satisfied when my bullet hit about 2 inches high. It is a normal requirement in Bavaria to make a test shot or *Probeschuss* to ensure that the hunter's rifle is shooting properly before the hunt.

My rifle, a Sako .308 with a Zeiss 2.5x-10x-52mm scope, had taken many cloven hoofed animals in Germany and a few in Austria and America. My friend Charlie Weaver sold it to me when he thought he had shot out the barrel. (Sorry Charlie, it still shoots groups under one inch.)

Driving directly to Mittenwald, we stopped only to buy some fresh rolls for our lunch before going to the area we would hunt. Hans' hunting area (*Revier*) was only a few kilometers away and just east of the town. We parked my car at the base of the mountain and transferred my gear to his Suzuki jeep. I brought enough food along to feed the both of us for 3 days while hunting out of camp. For this first day, we only took lunch in our rucksacks for lunch.

We drove up a windy hardtop road to the bottom of a cable lift that appeared to be used for logging. The road dead-ended there as the mountain grade increased steeply.

When we first met I knew I might be in for a rough time. Hunting on the rocky Alpine slopes is very demanding — just hiking up the steep grades was tough enough. But carrying a heavy rucksack and rifle besides made it doubly tough.

I tried to prepare for this mountain hunt by increasing my physical activity about a month before the hunt. I rode a bicycle each day and climbed a nearby mountain to improve my leg strength and heart and lungs as well. My mountains were not as steep nor the elevation great enough so that it affected the thinness of the air. But I did the best I could by putting on my heavy mountain boots, loading my rucksack with a 40-pound sand bag, then walking up and down the slopes. I fashioned an oak sapling for a Bergstock so that I could practice using it like I would on the hunt.

Getting back to Herr Reiser, he was not what I had hoped for. I had not been on a mountain hunt in nearly 7 years and was not in top shape. I was hoping to get an elderly guide who would not travel too fast up and down the steep slopes. But he was a young man, about 30, and didn't have an ounce of fat on him. I hoped he would take my age and beer belly into consideration and show me some mercy.

As soon as we got out of the jeep, we glassed the slopes. Not seeing anything, we donned our rucksacks and began hiking up a rocky path that led up and away from the end of the road. We had only gone about 500 meters when we spotted a dark spot on an open, rocky slope about 300 meters above us. We studied it through binoculars and it was a young Gams buck. Studying the slope further, he spotted another Gams buck lying down.

We needed to get closer to get a clean shot; the rules in Bavaria require that hunters should not attempt shots over 200 meters. Hans checked the wind then took the lead going up the slope keeping a line of scrubby pine bushes between the Gams and us. The footing was poor, the angle steep, and it was difficult to keep from making noise. We were traversing a rockslide that probably came down the mountain as a previous avalanche. We got to a point where the line of pine scrubs

stopped and any further advance by us would surely spook the Gams.

They were now about 200 yards away. My guide told me to get ready to shoot by laying my rucksack over some rocks to use as a rifle rest. The second Gams had gotten up and both were now slowly grazing and were never in a good position to take a shot. Herr Reiser said one was 3 and the other 5 years old, and he wanted me to take the younger one. It always amazed me how *Beruffjaegers* could age animals at such great distances. Both bucks continued to graze and move further from us. The one I was to take was either behind a scrub pine or a rock out cropping never giving me a clear shot. There was no chance that we could get closer across this barren slope without spooking them.

Finally, we were out of range and we would seek out other Gams. We descended back down the rock slope to the path at the bottom and then climbed to a higher elevation over a windy, serpentine path that went up and around the mountain. We left the jeep at about 1,000 meters and the surrounding mountain peaks were about 2,000 meters. Now at about 1,500 meters, we would stop to glass the slopes each time we came to a vantage point. It was a clear, sunny day and when there was a break in the trees we could look down into the valley and see Mittenwald. It really is a picturesque town dotted with church steeples and the famous Bavarian style houses with the wooden balconies.

I noticed what looked to be a military post to the north of the city. I asked Herr Reiser if it was and if that was where he did his military service. It was a military post for one of the units of the 1<sup>st</sup> German Mountain Division. And yes that was his former unit, which is known to be an elite unit that trains to fight in the mountains. No wonder he could travel so fast in the mountains.

About 10:30 we came to a narrow ridge that was part of the south rim of a bowl that opened up to the west.

Up above was a barren peak and talus slope that gradually became a grassy area broken by scrubby pine bushes. We glassed the rocky slope and the bowl, but only saw a lone Gams high up on the talus that would be impossible to stalk. Hans decided this would be a good time for lunch.

Just as I was about to unpack my lunch, I saw a Gams walking out from some pine bushes on the near side of the bowl, almost straight down from us. I pointed it out and we quickly determined it was a young "shootable" buck. He had me get in prone position and rest my rifle on my rucksack teetering on a rock looking over the rim. Asking how far it was, his only reply was, "Not far, just take your time, don't hurry the shot and aim low."

The angle looked like it was straight down, but it was about 45 degrees. I estimated the distance at 90 meters, so I held low right behind the shoulder and squeezed off a shot. The first thing I heard was "You missed!" and I didn't believe him. I didn't see the Gams after the shot, but he said it ran down hill, and he thought I shot under it. He quickly took off down hill along the rim. By the time I grabbed my gear he was out of sight. I followed along the rim and after 50 meters I spotted Herr Reiser at the edge of the rim motioning for me to come quickly.

The Gams buck had gone only about 100 meters down the slope and was standing in the open between some bushes. The downward shooting angle was about the same. I again had a poor rest, laying my rucksack on top of a tree stump on which to rest my rifle. I aimed low and again behind the shoulder with the Gams quartering off to the left. It ran downhill again at the crack of the shot. Hans said it was hit, and we found it a distance away lying on its side in a narrow rocky ravine.

The hunt wasn't over. My Gams was about 200 meters away, almost straight down hill and on the wrong side of the ridge to pack out. With **See Hunting Gams, page 14**

## Alumni Updates

### Where we've been and what we've done

**PETE ALEXANDER** (Fall '61) recently retired from Glatfelter Pulpwood Company. He lives in Salisbury, Md., and he enjoys sailing. [ppalexander@comcast.net](mailto:ppalexander@comcast.net)

It was great to have **DAVE ALLISON** (Fall '54) back to State College for the Centennial and Reunion. He and Bev live in Duluth, Minn.; they have 5 children and 6 grandsons. Dave is self-employed as the principal of Allison and Associates, a firm that helps other companies develop their sales, management and customer relations staff. Dave's hobbies include hunting and woodworking. [Dave@allisontraining.com](mailto:Dave@allisontraining.com)

**GREGORY S. AMACHER** (Spring '83), professor of forestry in the College of Natural Resources at Virginia Tech University for over 13 years, was recently appointed as the Julian N. Cheatham Professor of Forestry by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors. According to a VT media release:

"This professorship, established in 1989 by Alyce Cheatham in celebration of Julian Cheatham's successful career in the forest products industry, is limited to senior faculty in the Department of Forestry. Amacher has become a national and international expert in forest policy analysis. His research program centers on forest and environmental economics with a special focus on explanations of forest and natural resource user behavior under a variety of market assumptions. His work has opened several new areas of thought in forest economics, and his signature work in bargaining and environmental regulation has opened a whole new

realm of discovery. As a researcher who has written more than 100

publications and has received more than \$5 million in research grants. As a dedicated and innovative teacher, his graduate students and post-doctorate students have moved on to important positions with the World Bank, while others have received Fulbright fellowships."

Also with his PSU bachelor's degree, Gregory holds a master's degree and a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. "Let me say that my Penn State education was perfect preparation for graduate school and beyond. I originally wanted to become a silviculturist, but I arrived in Ann Arbor to find that such a program was no longer possible. I picked economics to study, mainly because **CHUCK STRAUSS** had made some encouraging comments on one of my forest econ exams, and Paul Mohai, a former biometrics professor at Penn State, told me to do graduate work in quantitative sciences. I'm glad I followed their advice!" He's very fond of his time at the House. "Those were fun times. I was there for the burning of the mortgage, and of course enjoyed serving as Academic Chairman ... Everyone hated it when I enforced quiet hours!"

He and his wife of 20 years, Darcy (a pediatric dentist), live in Blacksburg, Va. with their two sons, Chase (15) and Spencer (5). He's into road and mountain biking, but remains an avid grouse hunter — even though he's a self-proclaimed terrible shot. "If anyone is ever down this way, look me up for some upland bird hunting!"  
(540) 552-0558 or [amacher@vt.edu](mailto:amacher@vt.edu)

Perpetual pledge, **JOE ARMSTRONG** (PSU '66 – '69), after receiving a BS in Forest Technology from PSU, he earned an MBA from Husson

College in 1980. He and Barbara live in Roanoke Rapids, N.C. Joe is retired from the U.S. Army and International Paper, and he is the owner of Scientific Forest Management. He says that he "still enjoys all the standard TΦΔ hobbies like fishing, hunting, camping, and traveling" along with bird watching and building houses.  
[Sfmforestry@yahoo.com](mailto:Sfmforestry@yahoo.com)

**TROY BARTLEY** (Spring '92) works in sales and estimating for Titanium Fabrication Corp., a metal fabricator headquartered in Fairfield, N.J. that specializes in reactive and exotic alloys. Troy deals with the industrial sector — paper mills, oil refineries and chemical plants — but the company also makes precision-machined submarine components as well as cooling systems for naval surface ships. He lives in Dentonville, N.J., which, he says, is "the mountainous northern section, not the swampy part." Troy still plays rugby, enjoys hunting with his beagle and reading Banjo's (**ANDY DUNCAN**) continuous e-mails.  
[troybartley@yahoo.com](mailto:troybartley@yahoo.com)

**RANDY BAUMAN** (Spring '85) is the assistant regional forester in the southeastern regional office of the Penna. Game Commission in Reading. Randy and his wife, Christine, and daughters, Elizabeth (12) and Amy (9) live in Denver, Pa. He has been with the PGC for 20 years and before that with the U.S. Forest Service for about a year. An avid archer, he spends more time being a "sports dad" following his girls' softball and basketball teams.

Also with the PGC, **JIM "CATFISH" BINDER** (Spring '77) is a Land Manager/Wildlife Conservation Officer. He is "blissfully single" and living in RFD Kleinfeltersville, Pa. He enjoys all outdoor pursuits. He says, "Tau Phi Delta is one of the best things to ever happen to me!"  
[jbinder@state.pa.us](mailto:jbinder@state.pa.us)



**BARRY BORGIET** (Fall '61) spent more than six months in the states this year. He and Helen flew to their condo at Indiatlantic Beach from Germany last fall; Helen returned in May and Barry flew back to Germany in July. In between, they had a busy schedule visiting family and friends and taking care of medical issues that crop up as we get older. They made several visits to Helen's son and their grandchildren in Ga. Jeannie and **TOM YORKE** (Fall '61) visited them in February shortly before Barry was scheduled for knee replacement surgery. His recovery was slower than expected, but he did travel north to visit with the Yorkes in Va. and then to attend the SFR Centennial and the TΦΔ Reunion. While in Va., he saw Betty and **WAYNE DUNLAP** (Fall '62) and toured Wayne's specialty wood business. After returning to Florida, Barry had a prostate biopsy that thankfully was negative. His knee recovered enough to go fishing in Montana with an old army buddy before heading back to Germany.

**JOHN "HOLLYWOOD" M. CALDWELL** (Spring '71) lives in Elizabethtown, Pa. with his wife Judi. John graduated from PSU with an ERM degree in 1973 and received an MBA from Shippensburg University in 1986. He is the Manager of the Elizabethtown Area Water Authority. His hobbies are fishing, hunting, golf, bird watching, and gardening.  
Cldwel@earthlink.net

**RALPH "LES" COWAN** (Fall '53) and his wife Gaye live in Ridgway, Pa. Les retired as the Wood Procurement Manager of Willamette Industries (Weyerhaeuser) in Johnsonburg. He enjoys hunting, fishing and golf.

His "kid" brother, **JIM "JC" COWAN** (Fall '76) has been self-employed for 25 years as a Forest Consultant: Allegheny Foresters and Consultants in Julian, Pa. He enjoys hunting and fishing and doesn't have much time for much else. He and Lisa have

been married for 13 years, and they have three daughters, Rosalind, Margaret, and Allison. JC says, "I read with great interest Br. Joe Bartnicki's article in *Taproot*, 'Hunting Bears in North America,' for I too, if successful this September, will complete a grand slam of North American bears. I will be after a Brown Bear from coastal Alaska. My Black Bear came in 1986 from Elk County, Pa.; Grizzly in 2000 from the Yukon Territory, Canada; Polar Bear in 2005 from Resolute Bay, in the Nunavut Territory of Canada. Maybe I'll have to do an article too — The Polar Bear hunt was a 'true' adventure, something I wouldn't do again."

**MARC "DEL" DEL ROSSO, PE** (Spring '94 Beta) and his wife Carrie were married in 2004, and they recently built a house in Oakmont. Del is a design/build project manager for Astorino Development in Pittsburgh and enjoys fly fishing, Carrie's homemade meatballs, Penn State football and the American West. He looks forward to getting away on the weekends with good friends from the House.  
mdelrosso@astorino.com

**HOWARD "BUSHWACKER" FEDDEN** (Fall '73) graduated from PSU with a Recreation and Parks degree. He has an MA in Public Administration from the University of Wyoming. He and Maria live in Sheridan, Wy. and they have a son and daughter and a granddaughter. He is retired from federal service and operates a small business. He enjoys volunteer work, caring for their horses and mules, wilderness trips, wildlife observation, portable saw mill, motorcycle trips, camping, hunting, fishing, and too many other hobbies to mention. He says, "Tau Phi Delta was a wonderful support system for me. Returning to school as a military veteran and being one of the first married pledges, I was grateful to the Brothers for their acceptance."

**CARL GEESAMAN** (Fall '69) is a principal of Bommer-Geesaman and Company, Inc. (with former owner **BOB BOMMER** and younger brother **LARRY GEESAMAN**). He and Christine live in Hummelstown, Pa.; they have a son and 2 daughters. Carl enjoys hunting and fishing. He says that "I was ready to dropout at Penn State until I was introduced to TΦΔ by Brother **DAVE PUTNAM**. I obviously owe him a big thanks!"  
marble566@comcast.net

**KRIS "GEESE" GISI** (Spring '95) lives in Columbus, Ohio, and is the telecommunications analyst for Franklin University. He and his fiancé Katja are engaged to be married on October 20<sup>th</sup>.  
kristophergisi@yahoo.com

**DAVE "SWEDE" GUSTAFSON** (Fall '96) recently replaced outgoing Penna. Game Commission's head chief forester, **JACK BYERLY**. Dave, his wife and little sister, Chrissy (Readinger) and their Rhodesian ridgeback pups, Capone and Princess, will be moving soon from State College to the Harrisburg area. He had been the statewide forest inventory chief in a field office at the PGC's Howard Nursery. Before that he'd been with the Penna. Bureau of Forestry and private industry. He noted, "While at Weaber Lumber, I worked under the expert tutelage of **DENNIS BREHM**. I've worked for many other Brothers. **TERRY STEMMLER** at the DCNR was my summer intern supervisor, and **HOWARD WURZBACHER** was my most recent boss. Even my last C.O. in the Guard was **DAN DICAMILLO**. I owe a lot to many Brothers who helped me through the years!" After more than a decade in the Penna. National Guard, Dave was honored with a direct officer's commission from Staff Sgt. to 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt., serving with the Stryker Brigade Combat Team out of Bradford. An avid deer-bear-turkey hunter, he spends his spare time hunting his old hometown haunts near Port Allegany.  
dgustafson@state.pa.us

**BILL HEALY** (Fall '61) retired from the Forest Service in 2000. He and Georgette "George" have two kids and five grandchildren. Bill says, that he "currently manages their 200-acre farm for peace, joy, and serenity plus lots of wildlife." He is still active with the Wildlife Society, West. Va. Wildlife Federation and that state's Trappers Association.

**ANDREW "ANDY" HETRICK** (Winter '77), a forester for the southwestern regional office of the Penna. Game Commission in Bolivar, Pa., is alive and doing well. He and his wife Pam, who works as a dispatcher for the same wildlife agency, reside in nearby Johnston. Their son, Matt, recently came back from the "sandbox" his tour near Ramadi, Iraq and is a Criminology student at Indiana University of Pa. Josh will do his student teaching this fall and graduate also from IUP next December in Health and Physical Education. The youngest Nate is in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and an avid soccer player. Andy notes that he, "Can't complain about the Commission, going on 25 years and it's been a great place to work. I see a few Brothers on the job, like Dokey (**HOWARD WURZBACHER**) every now and again, and saw Catfish (**JIM BINDER**) at **JACK BYERLY'S** recent retirement. I even ran into **JEFF PATTEN**, as Clear Lake buys a lot of PGC timber sales." One of the earlier successful TΦΔ bear hunters, he's been bear hunting with family the last few years near home in Somerset County, but has threatened to show someday and surprise the north camp or House during a future bear season. [ahetrick@state.pa.us](mailto:ahetrick@state.pa.us)

**JOSEPH HLIVIA** (Spring '90) and his wife Denise have a son, Alex (4), and a daughter, Jordan (2). They currently reside in Pine Grove Mills. Joe works for McCormick Taylor as an environmental scientist in the transportation consulting industry, primarily dealing with wetlands and streams. Denise works for Penn Sate

in the Eberly College of Science as an associate coordinator for contracts and grants management. With hunting season right around the corner, he hopes to spend some time in Susquehanna County at his cabin. [jwhlivia@MTmail.biz](mailto:jwhlivia@MTmail.biz)

**JOHN "RED JOHNNY" HUDSON** (Fall '93) is a self-employed Consulting Forester living in New Castle, PA. He and Cherie have 2 sons (9 and 1) and a daughter (2). John enjoys woodworking in his spare time.

For the past year, **FRANK JUDD** (Fall '64) and Mary have been living in the San Francisco Bay area. Frank gave up his job as head of the TΦΔ Endowment Fund and his paying job to become Vice President for Sales of Plywood and Lumber Sales, Inc. in Oakland, Calif. He says that he is "Trying to sell as much Black Cherry, Red Oak, and Maple as possible before the next big earthquake, and then he and Mary will move back to Pa." They have experienced six (Who's counting?) quakes above 3.0 since moving west last October. He is looking to make contact with any brothers in Northern Calif. (510) 428-0318 or [franklinjudd@hotmail.com](mailto:franklinjudd@hotmail.com)

Former Phi, **CHARLES "CHAZ" F. KREWSON, III** ('50) and wife Margrit are snowbirds. They live in Washington DC in the spring, summer, and early fall, and then they migrate to Tampa, Fla. for the winter months. Chaz had a 40-year career as a Health Care Administrator in the Air Force and the Department of Veterans Affairs. His hobbies are hiking, reading, listening to classical music, and traveling. He returned to Penn State and Tau Phi Delta for the first time since graduation to attend the Centennial and Reunion.

Though he owns a forest consulting business based in Erie, **ED LAIDLAW** (Spring '96) tells us "I still do as much hunting and fishing as I possibly can." He has hunts lined up

this fall in both Illinois and Kansas with Brothers. **GREG FLEMING**, **ROB MUTI** and **JEFF SHILLING**. [erlaidlaw@hotmail.com](mailto:erlaidlaw@hotmail.com)

**FREDERICK M. LIGHT** ('66) is a long-term employee of Metropolitan Edison living in Leesport, Pa. He has worked 29 years as a Regional Forester and 8 more as a System Operator. he still enjoys restoring a 1960 TR3A, golf, astronomy, and horseback riding. [oldpine47@comcast.net](mailto:oldpine47@comcast.net)

**GEORGE LEAVESLEY** (Fall '61) retired this year from the U.S. Geological Survey with 38+ years of Federal Service (including military service). To fill some of his free time he's recently taken a half-time position as a Senior Research Scientist with the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Co. He enjoys skiing and biking and has done the Ride the Rockies bike tour in Colorado and the Bon Ton Roulet tour in the Finger Lakes region of New York the last two years. George also teaches a two-week watershed modeling class at the Friedrich Schiller University in Jena, Germany every fall. This gives him and his wife Rose Ann an opportunity to spend a long weekend with **BARRY BORGIE** and his wife Helen who live in Zweibruecken, Germany. George has also kept in touch with **DAVE BAUER** and **BILL MITCHELL**, and they have all tried, with some success, to get together the past few years for camping trips somewhere in the western U.S.

After nearly 30 years of courtship, **TOM "CHIMP" LUPP** (Fall '75) has proposed and is finally engaged to be wed to his longtime sweetheart Betsy Handley of Frederick, Md. Tom is a career Forest Pest Entomologist for the Md. Department of Agriculture. Betsy, who is also an entomologist, recently retired from the same state agency. Tom continues to be an active volunteer for the Appalachian

Trail Conservancy's local trail club in Maryland and in southern Pennsylvania, including the section within the Michaux State Forest.

Married in September 2003, **CHRIS "ZOO" KAMZALOW** (Spring '95 Alpha) and his wife Jenn had a little girl, Megan, this February. They live in Harrison City. Zoo works as a buyer for F-S Elliott Co. in the plant air compressor division and notes that if you are a golfer or a fisherman, chances are you are using a club, rod or reel made by the company's sporting goods division. He enjoys hunting and fishing, shoots trap, recently began competing in 3-D archery and chants "Here we go Steelers!" whenever he has a chance.  
ckamzalow@hotmail.com

**CAM KOONS** (Fall '72) and Pat live in Muncy, Pa. They have a daughter that graduated from PSU. He works for Catawissa Lumber and Speciality. He enjoys farming and hunting. He has hunted big game from Alberta to Argentina. He is hoping to draw an Arizona elk tag this year.  
ckoons@catlmb.com

**RON MAJERONI** (Fall '63) and his wife, Dr. Barbara Majeroni, live in Williamsville, N.Y. After Ron received his BS degree in Forestry from PSU, he received a Masters of Divinity from Lutheran Theological Seminary, Gettysburg, in 1972 and a Doctor of Ministry from Lutheran Theological Seminary, Chicago, in 1999. Ron is a Pastoral Counselor and Barbara is a Family Physician and Associate Professor. Ron enjoys hunting and archery. He is planning a once in a lifetime hunt in the Yukon this September.

**NORM MARTIN** ('47) and his wife Charlotte returned to State College for SFR Centennial and TΦΔ Reunion in April. Norm says, he is "trying to stay a little healthier." Norm recalls signing up **DICK HARTLEY** as a pledge in 1948.

Dick's comment at the signing was, "If this frat was so good, they wouldn't want me?"

(**Editor's note:** Dick apparently enjoyed the Brotherhood of TΦΔ; he bequeathed over \$100,000 to the Endowment Fund at his death.)

Besides being the House advisor for the past six years, **CHRIS MEYERS** (Spring '94 Beta) is a self-employed consulting forester and lives in State College. In addition to managing his forestry practice (and also to pass the cold winter days inside), Chris is pursuing his interest in teaching by serving as a substitute teacher at Juniata Valley High School. "My first day began with the a student I had in homeroom being arrested for fighting and escorted out by state troopers." Chris notes. "After five years of being together, my girlfriend Lisa and I recently bought a townhouse. I'm mourning the loss of 'The Dump' while moving on up to 'The Bungalow at Woods Edge.'" forestree96@yahoo.com

Former House Phi **WILLIAM "BILL" J. MITCHELL** (Fall '60) is retired from the U. S. Information Agency and living in Glendale, AZ. He and Karen have 2 daughters. Bill enjoys fishing, hiking, and touring.  
karbarwilly@cox.net

Previously retired Pennsylvania State Forester, **JAMES NELSON** (Fall '48) attended the TΦΔ reunion during the PSU School of Forest Resources Centennial in April. A Mont Alto Centennial Fellow, he was both honored and surprised by his wife, Iris, later that weekend, when a commemorative tree — a white oak in front of Wiestling Hall — was dedicated in his name to the Penn State Mont Alto Campus Arboretum. He spent his entire 41-year forestry career (less 2 years with Uncle Sam's Army from 1954 to 1955) with the Penna. Bureau of Forestry from 1952 until his retirement 1993. Years after rising to the ranks of the state's top forester, he was further honored by Penn State as a recipient of the SFR

Outstanding Alumni Award. He noted, "Through the years, I had chance to work with many Tau Phis ... **DICK THORPE, AL SCHUTZ, JERRY ROBINSON** and, of course, **MAURICE K. GODDARD.**"

Other Brothers currently employed with the Bureau include: **GENE ODATO, ROY SIEFERT, TERRY STEMMLER, JOHN BRODNICKI, DAN DICAMILLO, JOHN MAZA, CHARLES CHOPLICK, JIM LIPKO, JOHN BEARER, BOB FITTERLING, ANDY DUNCAN, PHIL MCGRATH, JASON ALBRIGHT, ERIC PROBERT,** and **PAUL WEISS.** Also Little Sister **CECILE (CAVANAUGH) STELTER.**

**WADE L. NUTTER** (Fall '58) is a Professor Emeritus at the University of Georgia; he retired in 1997. He also is President of Nutter and Associates, Inc. Wade and Marilyn have 6 children and 3 grandchildren. He enjoys sailing and woodworking.  
wnutter@nutterinc.com

**RICH PARKINSON** (Fall '63) contacted us while he and Joanne were on their annual trip with a fifth-wheeler to get away from the summer heat of Fort Lauderdale. This year they are finding sweltering heat just about everywhere. They are on their fourth road trip to Alaska. They got the Alaska bug when they took a 7-day cruise to Alaska. They bought a new RV in 2000 and took a 4-1/2 month and 22,000-mile maiden road trip. Three trips and 3 fifth-wheelers later, they are still enjoying Alaska. They bought a new 38-foot Montana with a king-size bed and a fireplace for their current trip. They love the spectacular scenery and excellent fishing for halibut and salmon. The only drawback of the road trips is the price of fuel. On the first trip, diesel was \$3 per gallon and they thought that was expensive. Now it's \$5 a gallon in Dawson City, Yukon. He recommends that anyone going to Alaska read Michener's *Alaska*. He says, "It makes the trip much more interesting, especially when you get into Skagway and the Yukon."

**DEAN N. QUINNEY** (Fall '47) was one of the young guys that returned to State College for the Centennial and Reunion. Dean received Forestry and Forest Economics degrees from Penn State, Syracuse, and Michigan State. He is retired from the U. S. Forest Service. He says, "I have nothing but the fondest memories of Penn State, Tau Phi Delta, and the good old days." He enjoys hunting, fishing, gardening, the outdoors, and domestic and wild animals. He lives about 50 miles west of Washington DC and boasts of having the best whitetail hunting in the East. Three bucks, including a 10-pointer, were shot on his 10 acres of woods last season.

**DARREN "GUMP" RIGGINS** (Spring '02) and Tracy were wed on September 29<sup>th</sup> in Gray, Me. Darren is a Forester with Jones Associates and lives in Mechanic Falls. Der156@hotmail.com

After graduating in 1980 with a Recreation and Parks degree, **DAVE R. RUPERT** (Fall '77) went to work as a park technician with the National Park Service at the Assateague Island National Seashore, Md and later with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Mahoning Creek Lake, Penna. Currently he is the District Manager of the Armstrong Conservation District with over 26 years of service. He's remarried and he and Donna run a small planning/grant writing business known as Armstrong Municipal Planning and Design Services. They also have a few children: Melissa Lynn (23), Melissa Jean (22), Matthew (21), Ryan (17), and Dylan (13), as well as two grandbabies, Laikyn and Leah from Melissa Jean. His hobbies are 'typical' Tau Phi, include turkey and muzzleloader hunting, canoeing, fly fishing, bike riding, and woodworking. Also, Dave loves working to preserve land for outdoor recreation, hunting, and fishing access through the local conservancy and land trust.

He thinks often about his pledge class "Fall 1977 – The Fabulous 14!" (It was 15 less one pledge who later left) and wonders what became of his pledge brothers: **FRANK "DUTCH" DOWNS, RAY "PAPPY" LOMB, JOHN NORWIG, JOE GOODGE, BILL RHODES, PETE DORNEY, JIM HAYDEN, JEFF KURTZ, JOHN VATCHER, RICK "RT" TAYLOR, ERIC HOFFMAN, DVM**, and, yes even, **GARY DORSETT, ESQ.** He agrees with another, **EARL HOWER**, that they need a 30<sup>th</sup> reunion at this fall's homecoming on October 13<sup>th</sup>.

Although its from the movie "Jeremiah Johnson" he can't get this quote out of his head when thinking of his experience pledging Tau Phi: "Sure are cocky for a starvin' pilgrim!" It was something often said to him and his pledge brothers by that taskmaster and a wanna-be mountain man, Br. **KARL IMDORF**, during their Brothers' Week.

**GREG SCHRUM** (Fall '64) retired from the Penna. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources – State Parks in March 2007 after 35 years of service. He is looking forward to the next 100 years in the new SFR building, the arboretum, meeting classmates at the Centennial, and beginning his retirement. He also will be able to spend more time hiking, gardening, and reading. Gms67@paonline.com

**TROY D. SHAW** (Spring '84) has been an urban forester for the Fairfax County, Va. government for nearly 20 years. As the Coordinator of Forest Pest Section in the Urban Forest Management Branch, he specializes in forest pest issues in the Washington metropolitan area. He and his wife, Jane, live in Fairfax Station. They have two children, Crystal, a senior and varsity soccer player at Syracuse University and Larson, a sophomore at James Madison University. While he lives in "Hokie Country" (Va. Tech is his wife's alma mater), he remains a loyal Nittany Lion football fan, often traveling to home games with his

father and brother (both Penn Staters). Besides his many trips to collegiate sporting events in central New York and Happy Valley, he travels often to his hunting cabin in southwestern Potter County, Pa. — spending a great bit of time hunting and fishing with the many Brothers that visit the camp. troy.shaw1@verizon.net

**SEAN SWEENEY** (Fall '99) currently resides in Lower Allen Township near Camp Hill, Pa., and is a project engineer for Barton & Loguidice. He recently passed the Professional Engineering Exam, making him a licensed engineer in Maryland and Pa. The majority of his professional work focuses on solid waste management and development of alternative energy projects tied to solid waste. With a number of offices in New York, Sean is helping the firm start its first office in Pa. He is also in the process of finishing a master's degree in environmental engineering from PSU. In what little free time he has, Sean enjoys fly fishing, boating on the Susquehanna, and hunting varies species of fur and feather throughout Pennsylvania. scs170@yahoo.com.

**ERIC "RIC" S. ULRICH** (Fall '61) retired as the Corporate Forester of Metropolitan Edison and Penelec in 1986. He also has operated a Christmas tree farm, which he is converting into a hardwood farm, including American Chestnut plantings., in Leesport, Pa. He "pinned" Audrey 45 years ago at the old house. This resulting in Ric being tied to the flagpole and doused with water by Audrey and all the brothers. ricstree@comcast.net

According to **FRED UMHOLTZ** (Fall '52), sadly two of his pledge brothers both passed away during the same weekend in December 2006.

**ALBERT L. CLEPPER**, a retired Inspector for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (and son of the late Henry E. Clepper – former executive secretary of the Society of American

Foresters) died in New London, North Carolina. Also **CLARK SELL**, retired from the southeastern regional office of the U.S. Forest Service, passed away in Sugar Hill, Georgia. After graduating in 1954, Fred started his career in Georgia with Union Camp. Later he worked for various sawmills in central New York and western Pa. before retiring and settling in the Carlisle area.

**HANS VOGELSONG** (Fall '84) lives in Greenville, N.C., with his second wife, Kindal. They have two 9-month-old black labs named after "The Simpsons" characters Lenny and Carl. After receiving his BS at Penn State, Hans got an MS at the University of Missouri, and then returned to Penn State for his PhD. He is currently an associate professor of recreation and leisure studies at East Carolina University, where he specializes in coastal resource management. During his free time, Hans enjoys fishing and metal detecting. "I welcome any contact from other Tau Phi Delta Brothers." [vogelsongh@ecu.edu](mailto:vogelsongh@ecu.edu)

**DR. RICHARD "SKEETER" WERNER** (Fall '56) traveled from Corvallis, Ore. to attend the SFR Centennial and TΦΔ Reunion. Skeeter has BS degrees in Forestry and Entomology from PSU and a PhD in Entomology from NC State. He retired as a Research Entomologist from the Forest Service at the Pacific Northwest Research Station, and he currently works at Forest Health Consultants. He enjoys gardening, photography, hunting, fishing, and beachcombing. He and his wife Patricia have a son and a daughter and a 6-month old granddaughter. He says, "Someday I'll write some stories for *The Taproot* about my hunting experiences in Alaska. Also my research experiences on the effects of climate change on forest insects using float planes, helicopters, snowmobiles, 4-wheelers, and snow shoes!?"

**THOMAS E. WOLF** (Spring '66) is retired from the Pa. Department of Agriculture. He and Sharon live in Johnstown. They have a son and a daughter and two grandkids. He has lots of hobbies and is always "looking for a good game of whales tails."

### **SPECIAL ALUMNI UPDATE** **OF MICE AND MEN, AND** **OVER-SIZED TROUT**

For a long time many Brothers, such as **CHARLES "CHUCK" STRAUSS** (Fall '55), have been part of a fine order of Tau Phi Delta that have perpetuated the pursuit of large fish — with trout being one of their passions.

Perhaps if our Alpha Chapter was at the University of Georgia, we might have a closer alliance with largemouth bass. And that's not to say our Brothers can't be found on the Juniata or Susquehanna Rivers.

Nonetheless, flyfishing for trout, particularly along the nearby Spring Creek or Penn's Creek, has been a long-term favorite within the House.

But once graduated, we probably look elsewhere for these magical moments. Our somewhat dispersed assembly of alumni may even attempt certain reunions worldwide.

As an example of such behavior, we offer the likes of **JOE EICHERT** (Fall '60) and **CHUCK STRAUSS**, who have enjoyed annual Big Sky Country rendezvous on the Madison, Bighorn, and Yellowstone Rivers in Montana over the past 20 years.



**Brother Chuck and a nice Bighorn River brown trout.**

Now Joe's logistical advantage of living in Idaho has permitted a certain acquisition of necessary trappings; including two drift boats, a 25-ft. trailer, a series of Chevy pickups, and an assortment of fly rods and reels that boggles the mind. According to Joe, "A guy's got to have neat stuff!"

Both Chuck's and Joe's sons have joined these western fly fishing adventures and have recently further introduced a certain international flair to their sport. In 2005, it was the Woods River in Alaska, and in 2007, a rather long flight to Chile and the mountainous Patagonia Region.



**An avid world angler, Brother Joe and a king salmon from the Yelcho River in Chile.**

This year's western gathering of "Geezers 'R Us" along the Bighorn River was well attended.



**Chef Joe's fancy tablefare on the Bighorn.**

Please note, that they were also successful in attracting a new attendee **JOE "BART" BARTNICKI** (Fall '60) (third from right).

Brother Chuck, still in his chest wadders, found this attire to be a comfortable way of avoiding mosquitos at dinnertime. Is their no etiquette among these rogues?

## Awards `R Us

On April 18<sup>th</sup>, four Actives attended the inaugural presentation of “The Arnold Addison Award.” This annual award, named in honor of former four-term mayor (1978 – 1993), was designed to recognize an organization within the State College Borough that devotes the most time toward community service. Tau Phi Delta Fraternity received the award, voted unanimously by the Borough Council. Our fraternity received the award and a \$500 check at the Borough’s award ceremony held at the Nittany Lion Inn. In attendance for the awards dinner were Brs. Josh Gallaher, Luke Ulsamer, Clark McColly, and Kyle Russell. At the event they sat with several Centre County Commissioners and their wives. At the conclusion of the banquet, the Brothers met the Addison family, and they announced they were very pleased that the House received the inaugural award.



**With the current Mayor Bill Welch (second left) looking on with approval, Councilman Jeff Kern (right) presents the award to these proud Brothers.**

Soon after, a letter arrived from PSU President Graham Spanier congratulating the House on this achievement, stating “the brothers of Tau Phi Delta have devoted a great deal of time and effort to the betterment of our community and I’m delighted to see your good work recognized in this manner.”

**Editor’s Note:** A far cry from the PSU Alumni Association’s recent *Penn Stater* magazine article (March-April 2007) bashing fraternities at Penn State.

Other recognitions from Penn State went to a few other Brothers. The “Penn State School of Forest Resources Outstanding Alumni Award” recognizes outstanding SFR alumni and fosters closer relationships between the award recipients and students, faculty, staff, and other alumni. On April 28<sup>th</sup>, Br. Jack Byerly received his due from Penn State. He’s the outgoing chief forester for the Penna. Game Commission and active officer with the Penna. Forestry Association.

Since its inception in 2001, seven other Brothers have been honored with the same award.

“Mont Alto Distinguished Fellow Award” recognizes the success of their university education (which began at Penn State Mont Alto), their professional accomplishments and/or their commitment to their communities. Recognized on April 30<sup>th</sup> were two Brothers, Dr. Charles H. “Chuck” Strauss and the late Richard R. “Dick” Thorpe (Mrs. Jan Thorpe accepting posthumously). Chuck, current director of the School of Forest Resources, and Dick, former state forester and director of the PA Bureau of Forestry, were both nominated by TΦΔ Grand National Chapter.

With their significant achievements in their careers, they have been an inspiration to those who belong to our fraternity, as well as many others involved in the management of our nation’s natural resources. Congratulations to all three of these Brothers!

## More MIAs

Recent audit of our mailing list found we are in need of addresses for the following “missing” Brs. (’89 – ’01):

James Andrews, J. Michael Baran, Michael Becker, James Bintrim, Arthur Bixler, John Boucher, John Donovan, Robin Dunn, Francis Gada, Tony Greulich, Robert Johnson, Joshua Kaizer, J.P. McHugh, Brian Monnin, Anthony Oreulich, Ken Paul, Donald

Rhodes, Mark A. Rice, Barry Rose, John Ross, Chris Sanders, Theodore Skdraszewski, Alexander Sperrazza, Timothy Sullivan, Michael Todd, Fred Topper and John Yeager.

If you have any information, please call the House or contact the House Alumni Chair at: [rlg5001@psu.edu](mailto:rlg5001@psu.edu)

## Hunting Gams from page 7

our Bergstocks in hand, we carefully worked our way down the slope and into the ravine.

The first thing we did was to examine the trophy and the shot placement. It was a 2-year old buck but a bit small for its age so it was a good animal to cull.



**Br. Bogiert’s Barvarian Gams  
*Er liebt, für Gams zu jagen!***

It was getting very hot and we knew we had to get the animal off the mountain and into the *Forstamt* (local forestry office that controlled hunting in this area) or the meat would start to spoil.

After gutting the Gams we carefully slipped it into a heavy plastic bag. The bag was then slipped into my guide’s large rucksack. I looked up at the rim and thought to myself that the toughest part of the hunt will be getting out. Hans started first and even with the heavy carcass on his back, he was able to scramble up the steep slope well ahead of me. I was slipping and sliding all the way to the top and made good use of my staff, using it as a third leg. By the time we reached the rim, both of us were sweating profusely and had to take a short rest.

We got back to the jeep in about 30 minutes passing half a dozen day

hikers who were headed up the mountain. We loaded up and headed to the *Forstamt* and the meat locker.

The feet and head were cut off and the animal was weighed. It was only 14 kilos, whereas a normal 2-year old would have been about 20 kilos. Hans determined the trophy at 77.1, which for a Gams buck is a small trophy. The number of points also determines the trophy fee.

The hunt was a short one; we finished by 1:00pm, as we did the necessary paperwork, and I paid my guide fee. At DM20 per hour it came to DM80. I tipped my guide along with a gift of fine American liquid refreshment from Kentucky. We had a successful and beautiful hunt, one I shall remember for a long time.

## New Wall Decorations In Forest Resources Building Centennial Dan Christ Prints and Special Offer

Noted wildlife artist Dan Christ (PSU- Forestry '72) exhibited his artwork during the SFR centennial weekend. Several alums, including Brs. Frank Judd and Jack Byerly, purchased some of his framed pieces and donated them to SFR to be added to the halls and rooms of the new Forest Resources Building. They can be seen with the donors' names prominently displayed on each piece.

Not wanting to be outdone, a few dozen bear hunting Brothers pooled their resources and purchased two more art prints, "Silent Stroll" and "Ricketts Glen Crossing." Subject matter: black bears, of course.

Additional funds have been collected and another order has been placed for Dan's soon-to-be-released "bruin" print. However, this one will be

displayed in the halls of Tau Phi Delta!

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The following Brothers donated for this art (by level of contribution and then in alpha order): Hans Vogel song, Earl Hower, Terry Stemmler, Joe Whitecavage, Howard "Dokey" Wurzbacher, Mark Brunermer, Chris Campbell, Ed "Emho" Crow, Frank "Dutch" Downs, Kory Enck, Bob Fetterling, Chad Hartzell, Andy Hetrick, Christopher "Zoo" Kamzalow, Joe Kolodziej, Kevin "Chief" Oskin, David "Big Dave" Ragantesi, Sean Sweeney, Shaun Doran, Ryan T. Myers, Gene Odato, Steve Torok, Shawn Cable, Charlie Choplick, Andy Duncan, Greg "Champ" Fleming, Dwight "Ike" Fulmer, Dave "Swede" Gustafson, Adam "Higgins" Heggenstaller, Ben Hoffman, Kevin "Doc" Hoover, Kevin Horner, Mike Hreben, Karl A. Imdorf, Freeman Johns, John Kolodziejski, Brian McHail, Dave O'Barto, Greg "Boo-Boo" Peiffer, Wayne Schutz, Roy "Screamer" Siefert, Kevin "Krusty" Walter, Stephen "Benny" Warner, and Pat Weiss.

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### Special Offer to Tau Phis

Dan Christ's "Lion Tracks" (shown below) was the top raffle prize during the centennial and it too had a Tau Phi connection. It was won by an attending Brother who placed the Greek letters "ΤΦΔ" in lieu of his name on his ticket stubs. This print was donated back to the PSU SFR in front of the entire banquet attendees and on behalf of the nearly 75 Brothers present. It can be seen and is permanently displayed in the main office of the FR Building.



**"Lion Tracks" by Dan Christ**

This unique print has a limited edition of 450 (signed/numbered) at \$125, or 45 artist proofs at \$150, or 25 giclees at \$300. Framing is also available. You can have the original oil painting for \$7,500.

The Special Offer: Should any Brother purchase this art print, or any other of Dan's work, between now and December 31, 2007, ten-percent of the proceeds (before sales tax) will be donated to the Tau Phi Delta Endowment Fund. Contact Dan Christ Art Gallery in Kempton, Pa. ([www.DanChristGallery.com](http://www.DanChristGallery.com)) by calling (610) 756-6342.

**NOTE:** You must identify yourself as "Tau Phi Delta" when ordering.

Whether for your home or cabin, as a gift or to just treat for yourself, part of the proceeds will benefit the House.

### In the News

Spring 2007 Pa. Forestry Association's *Pennsylvania Forest* cover featured four Brothers in a Forestry 366 field class.



**Brothers Jim Barry, Derrick Nahill, Phil Brumbaugh, and J.R. Murdock with Professor Bruce**

**Lord (second right). Photo by  
Chuck Strauss**



For those who missed it, the *Field and Stream* "Blood Brothers" article about ΤΦΔ can now be viewed online at [www.tauphidelta.org](http://www.tauphidelta.org).

However, copies of entire September 2006 magazine are still for sale from the Alumni Committee for a mere \$20 (includes shipping and handling).



Address Service Requested

Tau Phi Delta Fraternity  
427 E. Fairmount Ave.  
State College, PA 16801

## The Next Issue: Fall 2008

One of the feature articles in the next issue of *The Taproot* will be “Our Own Band Of Brothers” — An in depth look at those brave Tau Phi Delts that served our great nation during the war.

We are still collecting information (trivia, stories, photos) on the Brothers (both living or now deceased) who served our nation during World War II. Please correspond with Earl Hower at 111 Plaza Street, NE, Leesburg, VA 20176, or call (703) 777-6527.

We are always looking for good stories to include in *The Taproot* so give us some suggestions. We can do the writing if we get a little help on the story line and details.

We also rely on the alums to send us material for the “**Alumni Updates**” section of the newsletter. Please take a few minutes to complete the insert in this issue of *The Taproot* and send it to Tom Yorke, 5384 Antioch Ridge Drive, Haymarket, VA 20169. You also can send an email to one of the editorial staff: [tjyorke@mindspring.com](mailto:tjyorke@mindspring.com), [earlh@iwla.org](mailto:earlh@iwla.org) or [aheggenstaller@nrahq.org](mailto:aheggenstaller@nrahq.org). Tell us about your job, family, hobbies, travels, and/or hunting and fishing exploits.