



STAR & CRESCENT

THE NEWSLETTER OF MIAMI'S ALPHA DELTA PHI

Announcement: Realty Board is No More

What's in a name? Quite a bit, says the group formerly known as the "Realty Board."

Decades of Alpha Delt undergrads thought of the Realty Board as the small group of alums who mainly collected the rent and kept the house standing. Future generations will know them as the "Alumni Council."

"The 'Realty Board' name suggests we're primarily a landlord," said Alumni Council president **Stefan Davis '72**, "and that's a very limiting description of what we do. Ultimately, Alpha Delta Phi is an educational institution, and the alumni's real responsibility is to help undergrads learn to function as managers and leaders. The name 'Alumni Council' will keep us focused where we need to be – on relationships, not rent."

To underscore the switch, each of the 12 Alumni Council members will be assigned an undergraduate officer to counsel through a monthly telephone call – the kind of contact that has often been limited to the alumni president and treasurer in the past. The new practice

will provide undergrads advice and perspective and give more alumni leaders deeper insight into changing chapter needs.

"This move will help alumni and undergrads collaborate," said Council member **Matt Labuda '11**. Lack of a close working relationship contributed to the chapter's steep decline in the early 2000s, resulting in the closing of the house and the restoration campaign. Labuda served as undergraduate president during part of the resurgence that followed, and "saw first-hand how alumni involvement makes a big difference to chapter strength."

Alumni and undergrads have plenty of challenges to work on together, according to on-campus chapter advisor **Rocco Manzo '86**. "These days, upperclassmen commonly live in apartments, which can weaken the connection between classes. In-house leaders tend to be younger, and it's easy for things to be lost – such as the right ways to conduct rush, initiation, ritual and chapter meetings. So alumni have an important role to play in transitions and ongoing support."

The change in focus will require a new era of alumni leaders. With several Council members due to roll off, "We need to recruit more alumni who would enjoy a mentoring role. We especially need some younger alumni to step up," said Davis, who has served on the Realty Board most of his years since his 1972 graduation.

"We're adopting a name that signals our group's participation beyond property issues," said Davis. "We'll still have a vital role in keeping the physical plant functioning – but a closer relationship with the undergrads will make that job easier."

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More about Alumni Council participation

For questions, suggestions, or to express interest, please contact Stefan Davis '72 at [317-274-2317](tel:317-274-2317) or ssdavis@iupui.edu

For Alumni Council roles and responsibilities, visit www.mualphadelt.com

ADs Scramble in a Fundraiser That's No Yolk

Alpha Delta Phi Alumni Council

Stefan Davis '72
President

Rocco Manzo '86
Faculty Advisor

Jim Barre '76

Brett Cole '08

Jeff Crawford '78

Doug Diefenbach '80

Nick Eramo '19

Steve Fleischer '76

Don French '53

Ralph Herda '75

Matt Labuda '11

Matt Pytlik '09

Chuck Turner '55

You can't make an omelet without breaking a few eggs.

As the old expression suggests, sometimes you have to make a mess to make good things happen. In November, the undergrads took that idea to an eggs-streme with a fundraising event called "Egg an Alpha Delt."

The recipe for this eggcellent idea -- whipped up by organizers **Chris Evans '19**, **Alec Hoelker '19** and **Kevin Young '19** -- was pretty much what it sounds like: invite the entire campus to throw eggs at Alpha Delt's for money.

Throwers could choose \$1 for 1 egg, \$5 for 7, \$10 for 20 -- or select "The Works:" \$10 for 12 eggs plus barbeque sauce and flour.

Throwing eggs on-target takes a bit of skill(et), but there was no shortage of cooks in this kitchen. Word of the fundraiser spread quickly via social media. Every sorority on campus got the promo and brothers texted friends to spread the news. Passersby on South Campus were happy to add to the carnage.

When the event was over (easy), participants had dished out \$280 in just two hours.

In short order, the proceeds were whisked off to the local Backpack Foundation, which serves up school sup-



plies to local kids who can't afford them.

Despite the fundraising success, the Alumni Council flipped. More than a little steamed about the event, they panned the whole thing and tried to grill the chapter. But when they poached the question of who cleaned up the mess, the undergrads chickened out and just withdrew into a shell...

ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS THE BACKPACK PROGRAM

the backpack program

EGG-AN-ALPHA DELT

FR I NOV 3RD
ALPHA DELTA
PHI HOUSE -
22 S.
CAMPUS AVE
5-7 PM

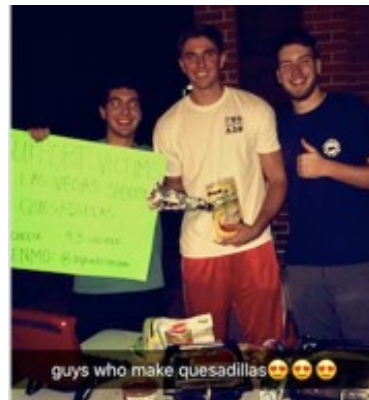
AAΦ

Come throw eggs, water balloons and more at your favorite (or least favorite) Alpha Delt \$1 for 1, \$5 for 7, \$10 for 20, or \$10 for "The Works" (12 eggs+ BBQ sauce + flour)

Creative *Phi*-lanthropy Continues...

With more than \$6000 raised in the past year, Alpha Delt's are enterprising fundraisers. Example: one crisp September night, Brothers Hoelker and Evans unveiled "Alpha Delta Phiesta." The two set up shop at the Phi Delt Gates to offer fresh chicken and cheese quesadillas to hungry students hoofing between campus and Uptown.

The event netted a total of \$205 for victims of the Las Vegas tragedy.



ADs Play "Small Ball" to Win Greek Week Crown

Miami's annual Greek Week pits Greek organizations against each other in an Olympiad of strength, speed, skill and talent. But when the dust cleared this past September, the savvy Alpha Deltas had stolen the championship using a nontraditional strategy: sheer persistence.

"Our plan was to be the only fraternity to participate in every event," explained undergraduate president **Nick Eramo '19**. In a chapter-wide effort, the Alpha Deltas didn't notch any high-profile victories. But overall scoring rewarded participation – a fact the crafty Alpha Deltas parlayed for a dark horse win.

"Our highest finishes were third place in Swimming, Broomball and Trivia. Yeah, we kinda sneaked up on people," grinned Eramo. "But we won the big one."



Alpha Deltas Dominate IFC Leadership

For the second year running, Alpha Deltas are providing more than their share of leadership to Miami's Greek System.

Fraternities collaborate through the campus-wide Interfraternity Council, which is governed by a 10-man Board of Directors. Last year, **Jackson Bandy '18** served as IFC Vice President and **Ben Rector '18** as VP of Finance. This year's board includes no less than three Alpha Deltas: **Chris Evans '19**, **Adam Beran '19** and **Sam Fredette '19** serve as the

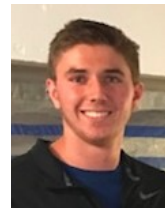
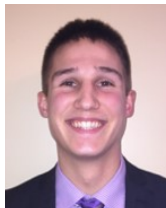
VPs of Philanthropy, Finance and Programming, respectively.

Alpha Delt chapter president **Nick Eramo '19** noted that no other fraternity has more than one representative on the IFC board. He says IFC involvement is part of chapter culture.

"Our junior class especially is a very motivated group; since they've seen many kids above them go from chapter positions to IFC, they've really made an effort to continue that trend and help Miami Greek life as a whole."

At right:

Adam Beran,
Sam Fredette,
Chris Evans



Brothers Make the Most of Internship Posts

Abercrombie & Fitch. Cardinal Health. EY, DHL, J.P. Morgan...

These are just a few of the major corporations where current Alpha Delt undergraduates have earned new internships or have been invited to continue working because of their strong performance as interns.

One example of the trend is **Mitch Smelser '18**, who has worked at Chicago's Shedd Aquarium the past two summers. The zoology major was excited to work at one of the world's largest and oldest aquariums. "My plan is to go to grad school and then work to conserve endangered species. The internship taught me a lot – it was super hands-on. I had experiences I could never get in a classroom lecture – including diving among live sharks."

"Student competition for real-world experience is intense," says Alumni Council member **Jeff Crawford '78**, "It says a lot about our chapter that so many brothers win prime positions."



Smelser: just another day at the office

Quick Work by Ketterer Earns MU Police Award

Entrepreneurship 201 taught **Joe Ketterer '19** the importance of recognizing opportunity and seizing the moment. But he never expected to use the lesson *during* class – until the evening he saved the life of a fellow student.

A group of students was making a pitch presentation to the class, when one of the group suddenly collapsed. Joe led the rush to assist, and made a quick decision that the young man needed cardio pulmonary resuscitation. Joe immediately administered CPR, drawing on his first aid training as a Kings Island lifeguard during high school.

The ailing student recovered and is back at Miami this semester. Grateful for the assist, the Miami University Police honored Ketterer with a Life Saving Award later in the fall.



Joe Ketterer



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Miami Alpha Delta Phi on the Web:

Main web site:
www.mualphadelt.com

Miami U's AD page:
www.miamialum.org/Chapter

ADPhi International
www.alphadeltaphi.org

Join us on Facebook

Catch up with classmates and post old photos, or peek inside today's undergraduate chapter. Search Facebook for our alumni-oriented group page ("Miami U. Alpha Delta Phi Alumni") or the undergrads' page ("Alpha Delta Phi—Miami University"). Message Chris Comer or Rocco Manzo to be added to the groups.

SHOW YOUR LOYALTY — PLEDGE TODAY!

Want to make an ongoing difference for the chapter? Join the chapter's alumni Loyalty Society with a three-year pledge of financial support. Alumni can renew or make an initial Loyalty Society pledge by visiting our website, or by simply emailing Doug Diefenbach at miamiadphi@yahoo.com.

Send us *your* reunion photo!

Informal reunions are a huge part of the Alpha Delt experience — just ask the group at right. Last spring marked their seventh group vacation since graduation.

Had a reunion get-together recently? Send your photo to miamiadphi@yahoo.com. Please include names and details. We'll share in a future newsletter.



At their rented Charleston beachhouse are (left to right, more or less) Mark Sadlek '80, Jeff Wagner '81, Fred Carmean '78, Doug Diefenbach '80, Jim Jorling '81, Scott Golan '80, Dave Foster '81, Tim Hecker '78 and Dick Wagner '80, plus their (more or less) patient and indulgent spouses...

Alumni give — but where does it go?

Our fundraising letters always state how important alumni contributions are. But they seldom detail the difference made by the money.

"Undergraduate rent covers our basics — mortgage, utilities, and the like," explained **Doug Diefenbach '80**, who leads the Alumni Council's fundraising efforts. "But when it comes to the unusual and unforeseen, alumni contributions are essential."

Recent uses for contributions include the following:

- Internet wiring
- Property insurance
- Real estate taxes
- Oxford permits and mandated inspections
- Debt service
- International dues
- Alumni relations events and mailings
- Property repair and improvement

"That last category is major," said Diefenbach. "It's an old house, and there's always something." In the last year, alumni funds paid for parking lot resurfacing, exterior painting, tree removal, new porch

posts and basement windows, a fire suppression system update and repair, and a landscape project that led drainage lines away from the house.

Expenses on the horizon include new patio doors and an effort to restore class composites throughout the house.

Last year, a tragic emerald ash borer infestation killed all the trees along Walnut Street. "We need alumni funds to

replace those trees," said Alumni Council member **Steve Fleischer '76**, "Not to mention new blinds to reduce the new glare in the Library."

"Where would we be without all those improvements?" asked Fleischer. "The house stays attractive, and the chapter competitive, because of alumni funds. We don't say it often enough, but we appreciate every dime."

Herda will count beans for Council

Loyal Alpha Delt alumni donors have a new name to write on their check envelopes: **Ralph Herda '75**.

Herda recently took over the Alumni Council treasurer position faithfully held for many years by **Doug Thompson '91**.

"Doug served through some very dark days for the chapter," said Council president **Stefan Davis**, referring to the chapter's closing and restoration campaign in 2004-2007. "We appreciate his service, and we're excited to welcome Ralph."

Minneapolis resident Herda looks forward to working with the undergraduate officers, and admits "I'm always looking for an excuse to get back to Miami — or get on a golf course."

Herda — "Pagodie" to his mid-70s classmates -- will be playing more golf in the future. After a career in big-company finance and accounting, Herda says he "flunked out" the first time he retired. "But I just retired again and this time it will stick!"

