

## 2018-19 PENN STATE BASKETBALL

### Big 10 Schedule Announced

Home games are in bold caps.

#### DECEMBER

Saturday, Dec. 1 – at Maryland

**Tuesday, Dec. 4 – INDIANA**

#### JANUARY

Thursday, Jan. 3 – at Michigan

**Sunday, Jan. 6 – WISCONSIN**

Thursday, Jan. 10 – at Nebraska

**Sunday, Jan. 13 –**

**MICHIGAN STATE**

**Wednesday, Jan. 16 – IOWA**

Saturday, Jan. 19 – at Minnesota

**Saturday, Jan. 26 – RUTGERS**

**Thursday, Jan. 31 – PURDUE**

#### FEBRUARY

Monday, Feb. 4 – at Northwestern

Thursday, Feb. 7 – at Ohio State

**Tuesday, Feb. 12 – MICHIGAN**

Saturday, Feb. 16 – at Purdue

**Tuesday, Feb. 19 – NEBRASKA**

Saturday, Feb. 23 – at Illinois

**Wednesday, Feb. 27 MARYLAND**

#### MARCH

Saturday, March 2 – at Wisconsin

Wednesday, March 6 – at Rutgers

**Sunday, March 10 – ILLINOIS**

Home single play

Indiana – Tuesday, Dec. 4

#### 2019 JANUARY

Sunday, Jan. 13 – Michigan State

Wednesday, Jan. 16 – Iowa

For Non-Conference games, visit [gopsusports.com](http://gopsusports.com)



## Happy Holidays!

Morrill Chapter of Alpha Zeta wishes you, your friends and family a happy holiday season and a prosperous new year!



# MORRILL MESSENGER

Morrill Chapter of The Fraternity of Alpha Zeta  
Penn State • [www.alphazetapsu.com](http://www.alphazetapsu.com)  
Fall 2018



## ALUMNI GATHERING

### Class of 1950 Alpha Zeta Reunion Tradition Continues

Continuing a tradition begun by the Class of 1950 when they graduated, 25 Alpha Zeta brothers met at Yoder's Restaurant in New Holland on Saturday November 3, 2018 for fellowship and remembrances. A special recognition of Jim Pierson's 94th birthday was celebrated with an appropriately-themed Penn State cake. With spouses, a total of

44 attended the gathering. The reunion originally included 1950 class members only, but was expanded in recent years and remains open to all AZ alumni and current active chapter members.

Next year's reunion date is Nov. 9, 2019. Contact Bob and Jane Pepple to get on the invitation email list: [jpple69@gmail.com](mailto:jpple69@gmail.com).



Front (l-r): Doug Pierson '78, Jim Pierson '48, Fred Seipt '56, Don Seipt '50, Harvey Brown '50, Lynn Laudenslager '64, Frank Markland '57, Hal Gardner '57, Bob Mutschler '64.

Standing: Doug Seipt '80, Alan Bair '67, Dave Poorbaugh '67, Bob Hodge '56, Paul Wolgemuth '65, Frank Resides '62, Art Keen '68, Dave Morrison '57, Ken Sacks '57, Darrell Hoffman '64, Carl Brown '67, Peter Witmer '74, Tom Brown '74, Tom Hartsock '68, Joel Brown '68, Bob Pepple '68.

—Information and photo provided by Alan Bair, '67

## GRIDIRON GATHERING

### Alpha Zetans Connect for Annual Tailgate

About 40 Alpha Zeta alumni attended a tailgate held prior to the Penn State vs. Ohio State game on Sept. 29, 2018. The tailgate was hosted by Mark Lowery, Dan Frechen, and Joe and Amy Leslie. Despite the outcome of the game, 20 alumni had an unforgettable experience through a block of Alpha Zeta tickets behind the field goal.

To join the committee to plan the 2019 Alpha Zeta tailgate, email Emily Gwin at [ecaldwell718@gmail.com](mailto:ecaldwell718@gmail.com)



## ALUMNI PROFILE

### From Senior Pledge to Senior Advisor and Beyond

With a background in agriculture, it was perfectly fitting that **Vince Verbeke, '82**, would join Alpha Zeta. He grew up on a small dairy farm and was involved in FFA and 4-H.



He joined the fraternity his senior year. He pledged after realizing he would need a new place to live when his roommate got married. Through his participation in FFA, he knew **Dean Snook '82**, already a member, who recruited Verbeke to Alpha Zeta.

He enjoyed being part of a large pledge class, and says he and the other pledges always kept their big brothers busy. One memory that sticks out to him is when there were piglets roaming East Hall's stairwell after a pledge party.

"I'll always regret that we didn't tell the

University Park Police that there were three piglets," Verbeke said. "There were only two, and we told them that there were two — opportunity missed."

After graduation, Verbeke went back to work for Veridge Farms. He had worked there since he was eight years old and was a partner with his parents until 1986. He then took a job teaching Vocational Agriculture in Ephrata, Pennsylvania, and later, in Brockway, Pennsylvania.

In 1988, he returned to Penn State after being hired by the Penn State College of Agriculture Sciences, where he worked for the next 25 years. Despite not having a computer background, he worked as a computer trainer and spent his time "learning by doing."

While back on campus, Dale Olver, the previous Senior Advisor of Alpha Zeta, convinced him to become the House Advisor. Olver soon stepped down, making Verbeke the Senior Advisor, a position he served in for the next 22 years. He enjoyed the

opportunity to be a part of the organization again and to watch the interactions between the young men and women in the fraternity, all the while learning from them.

"I'm sure that I learned more from the brothers and sisters of Alpha Zeta than I imparted on them," he said.

Verbeke, as he put it, "retired" from Penn State in 2013, and he and his wife, Laurie, moved farther south. They wanted to get out of the harsh Central Pennsylvania winter weather and be closer to their daughter, who is a nurse at Duke.

Verbeke currently works at the University of Virginia Health System in the Surgical Services IT group, which directly supports the computer technology system in the operating rooms. Since 2015, he has been the Interim Manager of SS IT.

Later this year, he and Laurie plan to travel to Munich, Germany, to visit the foreign exchange student they hosted in 1999.

## WALK THIS WAY

### Be a Part of Alpha Zeta History

Alpha Zeta Corporation Board Vice President and Furnishings Chair Dan Frechen led an effort in 2016 to give the Alpha Zeta house a facelift, as part of preparations for the Centennial Celebration, held on April 23, 2016.

Brother Frechen's project included replacing the front walkway and landing with compressed concrete pavers, updating the brick walls in front of the house and renovating the porch stairs. Starting in 2016, alumni were able to purchase commemorative pavers to have engraved and featured as part of the front walkway.

#### PAVER OPTIONS:

**6" x 6" brick at \$200**

*(up to three lines of copy, 14 spaces per line)*

**6" x 9" brick at \$350**

*(up to four lines of copy, 15 spaces per line)*

**9" x 9" brick at \$500**

*(up to five lines of copy, 15 spaces per line)*

\*Note: Special characters and spaces are included in the 14 or 15 limit. Please see Commonly Asked Questions for more details.

**Please contact Dan Frechen  
with any questions at  
dcfpsu@yahoo.com or (607) 760-8816.**



This opportunity is still available to those looking to support Alpha Zeta while leaving their own lasting legacy on the house.

Place your order by December 31, 2018 in order to take advantage of these prices. Bricks

can be purchased at [alphazetapsu.com](http://alphazetapsu.com), or contacting **Dan Frechen** at [dcfpsu@yahoo.com](mailto:dcfpsu@yahoo.com) or **(607) 760-8816**.

The pavers will be installed in August, prior to the start of the school year and football season. So alumni can come back in the fall and find their piece of AZ history!

#### COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q.** What materials were used for the walkway?

**A.** The walkway is made of compressed concrete pavers in hues of gray, blue and tan.

**Q.** How many bricks are available for purchase?

**A.** We have 240 pavers available in the 9x9 size, 240 in the 6x9 and 270 available in the 6x6.

**Q.** Who can be a part of the front walkway project? What can be inscribed?

**A.** Purchasing a brick and having it engraved is open to all Alpha Zeta alumni and actives, associate members and spouses/family members.

All inscriptions will be centered on the brick in capital letters (except for names that include a small "c" as in

McWilliams). A maximum of 14-15 characters per line (depending on the size of the paver), including spaces and punctuation as separate characters, is allowed. Symbols that appear on a keyboard and Greek letters may be used. Font type is Helvetica Medium.

Inscriptions cannot include commercial, discriminatory or inappropriate messages. The Alpha Zeta Corporation Board reserves the right to deny any paver purchase and inscription that the board deems inappropriate.

**Q.** How will my brick contribution be used?

**A.** Any proceeds earned from the paver purchases beyond the cost of the front walkway project will be used toward several other necessary house improvement projects.



## ALUMNI PROFILE

### Alpha Zeta Still Bearing Fruit for Bill Bowers '69

Bill Bowers pledged Alpha Zeta in 1966, with the hopes of fostering both experience and friendship to enhance his college experience.

Bowers had no doubt that AZ was the fraternity with the promise of both, as his brothers were like-minded in their studies in agriculture, focus on academics as well as strong involvement in leadership for other campus organizations.

“At AZ, I learned to work together with my pledge class to learn the history and traditions of Penn State and AZ. Serving as Censor, I had the opportunity to work with the new pledge class to assimilate them into AZ,” Bowers explained. “The responsibility of maintaining a house, developing and maintaining a budget and resolving an occasional disagreement between brothers all served to prepare me for life after college.”

Indeed, Bowers used his skills from AZ to propel his career forward for 40 years, with the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

Throughout the years, Bowers was able to keep in touch with his brothers. Fellow brother, Alan Wood, worked alongside Bowers for NRCS projects and Brother Frank Resides is Bowers’ popular e-mail correspondent when it comes to discussing Penn State football games.

Bowers retired in 2008 as the State Conservation Engineer for Pennsylvania, but

never quit working with his love for land and agriculture.

Once again, leadership and friendship were the tools for life Bowers gained at AZ and that foundation continued to bear fruit in retirement.

“In retirement, I have become a Penn State Master Gardener in Cumberland County,” Bowers said. “[This] complements my vegetable garden, blueberry and raspberry patches, and my apple/pear/peach orchard of 32 trees.”

Bowers is also active in church activities involving choir and finance as well as travels with his wife Mary Ann, with whom he has conquered the world for 48 years.

Their travels range from the redwoods in northern California to Montreal to Iceland and even Florida, where they attend Pittsburgh Pirate spring training games.

They have two grown daughters and two grandchildren who they adore.

“Mary Ann and I especially enjoy watching our granddaughter’s ballet performances and grandson’s golf matches,” Bowers revealed.

No matter how many years go by, however, Bowers will always remember his roots with AZ and the memories he made at the fraternity.

“Alpha Zeta was a great learning, growing and challenging experience for me; many life skills were developed and honed there,” he said.

## THON 2019 Donations for the Kids — How You Can Help



For those who like to donate to THON in Alpha Zeta’s name, it’s easy to do online. Here is how you accomplish making a donation and making sure it goes to AZ:

- Visit THON’s website: <https://thon.org/>
- Click “**Donate Now**”
- Scroll to “**Select a Specific Group to Support**”
- Click “**Student Groups**”
- Search “**Alpha Zeta**”
- Once you’re on the Alpha Zeta page, select “**Make a Donation**”

Thanks in advance for supporting the active chapter’s efforts to raise funds for THON! For the Kids!

“I would like to thank all those who were my brothers and friends.”

## //// FLASHBACK



Any Penn Stater and Alpha Zetan who remembers Parking Lot 80 on the University Park campus most likely recalls it most vividly in the winter months, when the vast area of asphalt became a windswept wilderness, despite the numerous parked cars which didn’t seem to provide any protection to those who traversed its icy expanse.

Located across Bigler Road from East Halls, the large parking lot held about 1,600

### The Frigid Tundra of Parking Lot 80

spaces mostly allotted for students, but also for faculty and staff, since the 1960s. East Halls students (mostly freshmen), living in the residence halls farthest removed from the center of campus, became most closely acquainted with it as they would often need to cross the lot to reach the rest of campus.

Brutal on cold mornings, Lot 80 gained a reputation and a slew of nicknames, including the Tundra and the Barrens. Students who were late for class and couldn’t wait for the Loop might set out on one end of what seemed to be a fairly benign short-cut, only to find after struggling against the ceaseless wind that their destination seemed farther away than before.

Urban legends arose about students who had been “lost” in Lot 80 and only discovered the next spring. Words like “dreadful” and “abominable” were often used to describe

its icy effect. Some claimed that an Arctic vortex existed there where the natural laws of meteorology didn’t apply (okay, maybe that was just this writer).

In the summer, however, Lot 80 presented a different appearance, hosting such activities as Penn State Sports Car Club autocrosses, Frisbee games, and Homecoming Float competition judging.

In 2003, Penn State closed the lot for new construction, relocating the parking spaces to the four corners of campus. Today the site holds the Business Building, the Forest Resources Building and the Food Science Building, as well as the Berkey Creamery, a parking deck, and the Tulip Tree Promenade, gift of the class of 2006. Across Park Avenue, the Arboretum at Penn State beckons walkers to visit—any time of year.



# ALPHA ZETA Penn State

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## *In this Issue...*

- *AZ Still Bearing Fruit for One Alum*
- *Gridiron Gathering*
- *Order Pavers by Dec. 31!*

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## 2018-2019 ANNUAL FUND

*Thank you, for your continued commitment to Alpha Zeta!*

We won't be bashful here. As you can see by the Honor Roll, we've gotten some great Alumni support right out of the gate, as our giving year began September 1. Thank you all!

However, we could always use more help.

I hope you've taken the time to read this newsletter and see all the good surrounding the Morrill Chapter of Alpha Zeta at Penn State and our Undergraduate Members, who are working hard at 360 N. Burrowes—stop by and greet them—they could always use the encouragement of those who came before them.



I trust you are all preparing for the Holiday season and traveling to see family and friends. I wish you the happiest of holiday seasons warmly.

As many of you prepare to make your end-of-year charitable contributions, won't you keep the Actives of Alpha Zeta on your list? Undoubtedly, you count your days as an undergraduate Member as some of your most valuable. I graduated in 1968, and I still lean on the people I knew then, and these relationships are among the most valuable in my life.

Your gifts year-after-year have meant a lot to the Chapter—keeping our vast Alumni network alive and also providing opportunities for us to share all the good news with you through electronic and print communiques.

If you haven't yet made your contribution this year, I encourage you to do so at whatever level fits your financial abilities. And if you know a few others who also have yet to make their gift, encourage them as well. We'd love to add you to the Honor Roll!

Thank you again for supporting Morrill Chapter of Alpha Zeta. Your generosity ensures the next generation of Active Members in our Chapter at Penn State will have the same opportunities you did.

*Warm Holiday Wishes and Fraternally,*

**Arthur Keen '68**  
*Alumni President*

### **Honor Roll**

#### **Lindley Hoag Dennis Society (\$500.00-\$999.99)**

Samuel F. Minor, 1960  
James Robert Nuss, Jr., 1960  
Arthur H. Keen, 1968

#### **360 N. Burrowes Society (\$250 - \$499.99)**

Raymond W. Evans, Jr., 1960  
Max L. Sponseller, 1960  
Gary L. Minor, 1963  
Lynn A. Laudenslager, 1964  
Robert S. Mazur, 1974  
Jeffrey J. Bechtel, 1980

#### **Mode and Blue Club (\$100 - \$249.99)**

Wade F. Gregory, 1948  
Harvey J. Brown, 1950  
John H. Milsom, 1954  
Donald Snyder, 1957  
Joseph C. Hurlburt, 1961  
Richard L. Rein, 1963  
William F. Wieger, 1964  
Newton Alan Bair, 1967  
William J. Bowers, 1969  
Jay E. Shaffer, 1973  
Mark P. Bridgen, 1977  
Garry L. Pepple, 1977  
Nancy T. Jury, 1987  
Joseph Palmer Spangler, 2009  
Derek Nissley, 2012  
Mark Zanella, 2014

#### **Morrill Associates (\$50 - \$99.99)**

Edward G. Buss, 1943  
John D. Cope, 1952  
Arthur Franklin Myers, 1957  
William R. Wallace, 1958  
Joseph E. Strittmatter, 1973  
Norma R. Lash-Petersen, 1986  
Andrew C. Kimmel, 1991  
Andrew S. Morley, 1994  
Lauren A. King-Dillon, 2004