



# The Oracle

Phi Delta Theta  
South Carolina Gamma  
Clemson University

Fall 2007

“We enjoy life by the help and society of others”

## Alumni Secretary Report

Dear Brothers,

We are trying to get more involved with the alumni; however, to do this we need updated information. If you could RSVP me with your address, phone number, and e-mail when you receive “The Oracle” by sending me an e-mail at [clauran@clermson.edu](mailto:clauran@clermson.edu). If you know of someone who didn’t receive it, please email me with their information as well. We are currently compiling an address book with this information. Also, please feel free to e-mail me an article that you would like to have published or anything concerning alumni so that the newsletter can become more alumni oriented.

Yours in the Bond  
Chase Laurance ‘705’

## Phi Delta Theta South Carolina Gamma



## One Man is No Man

## Letter From The President

These past few semesters have been a roller coaster for the chapter. Since moving back into the renovated quad, the chapter has been recovering from being very disorganized. However, we are on the rise now. Currently the chapter is in good standing with General Headquarters, and we are looking forward to a good semester. Winning two awards, Bigger’s Ritual Award and Outstanding Improvement Award, at the Emerging Leaders Institute this past summer has raised chapter morale even higher. Last January, we initiated six more brothers bringing our highest bond number to ‘728’.

Our most challenging task currently at hand is Rush. Using recommendations and new rush tactics this year, we should come out with a large and quality pledge class. After receiving over 40 responses to a freshman scholarship that was sent out over the summer, we started the semester already with a pool of over 60 names to pull from. We will keep you all updated on the progress from rush.

Since our last Oracle, we have accomplished a lot. Things are going well with the University, and we are having our second annual Chariots for Charity philanthropy event this October. We will be having tailgates for all home games in the Quad so please feel free to come by and have a bite to eat or grab a nice cold drink. Finally, we are excited to be coming back and competing in Float Building during Homecoming Week this year.

We will continue to set the standard for brotherhood here at Clemson University. If you have any questions or would like to help the South Carolina Gamma Chapter of Phi Delta Theta please do not hesitate to call or send an email. I wish you the best, and I hope to hear from you all soon. My e-mail and phone numbers are [mschrei@clermson.edu](mailto:mschrei@clermson.edu) and 704-277-4887 respectively.

Yours in the Bond,  
Morgan Schreiner ‘702’

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# Alumni Activities Council

## Palmetto State Alumni Club News

The Palmetto State Alumni Club convened its first meeting on April 11, 2005 at Stax Grill in Greenville SC. We established an interim board to get the club up and running. Plans are for this board to remain intact until our next Founders Day Meeting.

Doug Brown	Rob Marchant
Chris Bowman	Bruce Stroup
John Mendes	Gene Moyer
Beau Shuler	Greg Gilstrap
Mike Fleming	Scott Johnson
Jim Douglas	

We immediately went to work in two areas- Club Events and Housing Fund

### Club Events

The Club will host 3 events each year- Founders Day, Summer Picnic and Fall Tailgate.

The active chapter and club will work closely in the coordination and execution of all Founders Day activities.

The Summer Picnic was held at Mike Foster's Lake House on Lake Bowen in Spartanburg. We had a good turnout with a lot of Phi Spirit being displayed. We are planning to be back at Snafu's this summer for another Phi Delt get together.

The Fall Tailgate will be October 6, 2007, the weekend of the Virginia Tech game, in conjunction with the Phi Delt golf tournament, which Jeff Mackin has set up. There will be a tailgate in the fraternity quad in front of Donaldson.

Founders Day will be held in March, and we will have a formal chapter that morning followed by graveside eulogy reading for Walter Merritt Riggs. Followed by lunch and a baseball tailgate.

### Housing Fund

We made excellent progress with the housing fund. The Board established the South Carolina Gamma Foundation and elected 3 brothers to its board- Tom Hash, Beau Shuler and Jim Douglas. Under their direction and generous contributions from a group of alumni and the active chapter augmented by a matching gift program from two anonymous Brothers we have been able to increase our fund from \$39,000 to the \$50,000 threshold needed for a favorable investment portfolio.

The Foundation will give a financial report at the Founders Day meeting and lay out future plans for reaching our ultimate goal of establishing a Phi Delta Theta Fraternity House for our active chapter.

I hope you will agree we have made adequate progress this first year and begun fulfilling our commitments made at the 2005 and 2006 Founders Day meetings.

In January and February the board will be establishing an alumni membership program and election of officers for 2008-2009. Our goal is for every SC Gamma Alumni to be a member of the Palmetto State Alumni Club. Dues will be established to fund our events and send a representative to Nationals each year.

2005 and 2006 was a good start. 2007 will be critical as we have now made commitments as an organization that can only be accomplished successfully by the entire membership of the Chapter.

Proud to be a Phi!

Jim Douglas '11'

## Remembering a Brother

I remember the first time we met, when we both used to work at a McAlister's Deli in Columbia, SC. I was thinking who is the loud obnoxious guy. Well, if he was not loud and obnoxious, I probably would have never got to know him that well.

Mike was, and will probably always be the loudest and most stubborn person I ever knew. But I mean that in a good way. That was part of who he was and I would never have wanted to change it, even if it drove me crazy sometimes. More than those traits, he was an incredible friend. It's horrible that it took his death for me to realize it, but sometimes you don't really know how good something is until you lose it. I don't think there was anything he would not have done for me, if it was in his power, and not just me, but any of his friends, any of his brothers, or even anyone he only knew as an acquaintance. He could always put a smile on my face or put me in good mood, while simultaneously driving me a little crazy. Whether it was me saying, "Mike, you idiot" or just laughing at his corny jokes or horrible impressions, he always put me and others in good spirits.

He was the first in his family to graduate from college, and that was a great accomplishment. I hope his brothers follow his lead and do the same. Sometimes I feel an obligation to reach out to them and make sure they stay focused and do what he did. I know Mike would push them all the way through college, just to make sure they finished. So maybe I should do the same. Last time I spoke to Mike, he was working at a YMCA, I believe, with kids and expressed interest in working with kids as a full time career, a full time passion. He would have been incredible with them. Mike really was a big goofy kid at heart, so he would have fit in perfectly. Wherever he is now, I'm sure he has increased the noise level with his loud, infectious and obnoxious laugh, added lots of good times and created a lot of smiles. He will be missed.

Yours in the Bond  
Michael Herring  
'651'



Picture of Mike Davis (left), his little brother Zach Coker (middle), and grand little Matt Allen (right)



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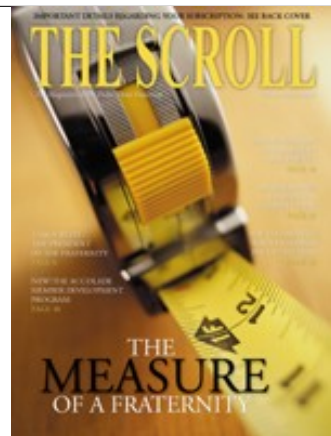
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ΦΔΘ

Semester



Report

## Announcements

### Fall Tailgate & Golf Tournament, Virginia Tech Game, October 6, 2007.

The Alumni tailgate will be on the quad. The price will be \$10 per person, this includes food and drinks. We will be cooking our award winning Fried Turkey, along with sides and a desert. This tail gate is open to all Alumni friends and family.

### Homecoming October 20, 2007 Central Michigan Game

This is the first time in five years that the fraternity has decided to do a float, if any one has any suggestions, guidance or information please send us an email or give us a call any help you can give will be greatly appreciated.



*Getting married? Having a baby?  
Other announcements?  
Let us know, so we can let your pledge brothers  
know: [clauran@clemson.edu](mailto:clauran@clemson.edu)*

### Spring 2007 Initiates

Matthew Allen  
'725'

Michael Barcelos  
'726'

Robert Bennett  
'727'

Eric Haas  
'728'

Michael Zablocki  
'729'

Matthew Johnson  
'730'