

# The Phi Rho Report



## The Iota Chapter of Phi Sigma Rho



Minna Krejci at the Orchid Ball.

*Photo By Andy Parks*

### Chapter News

Renewing the Ranks  
On January 1<sup>st</sup> the new officers took their Oaths of Office. The new positions are as follows: President – Ariane P., Vice President – Karen S., Secretary – Elizabeth Y., Treasurer – Carrie S., Historian – Katie S., Philanthropy – Jen J., Social – Carrie S., Recruitment – Rachel K., Membership Educator – Carrie L., and Panhel Rep – Jen J. In addition on January 26<sup>th</sup> the appointed positions were filled by the following girls: Sisterhood Spirit – Lauren S., Scholarship – Lauren S., Public Relations – Carrie L., Fundraiser – Carrie S., and Ritual – Karen S.

Networking at Nationals  
National Convention was held February 1-2 at the University of Dayton. There were eight actives and one alumna in attendance to represent the Ohio Northern – Iota chapter. Elizabeth Young lives near Dayton, and her family was kind enough to house and feed all of us. A big thank you to them! At the convention the girls sold pre-cut letters, door hangers, key chains, candy jars and pin boxes as a fundraiser. Rachel's mom again offered her services and hand cut all 117 sets of pre-cut letters! The chapter was able to raise \$140 from the fundraiser. In addition to the regular business, we made picture frames as pixie gifts for the new colonies, and there was an excellent moti-

vational speaker. On the downswing, Carrie was quick to point out that there was no desert. I am delighted to pass on the news that our very own Amanda Kowalski was awarded the National Senior Award. Hooray to Amanda for receiving the first National

by the University of Toledo chapter. As of me typing this, I noticed that Amanda has posted some pictures of the event at: <http://www2.onu.edu/~stu6432/>.

Other News  
February 16<sup>th</sup>, Monique vis-



award  
to go to  
an Ohio  
Northern - Iota sister!

New Faces on the Way  
On February 19<sup>th</sup>, the chapter held a pizza recruitment party. There were four girls in attendance. Three of those girls chose to accept Phi Rho bids and are now going through membership education. They are Rachel W., Chelsea, and Melissa. The Spring Epsilon Initiation is scheduled for April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

First Annual Orchid Ball  
The First Annual Orchid Ball was held this past weekend on March 29<sup>th</sup>. The dinner / dance was held at the Tamaron Country Club in Toledo. It was co-sponsored

ited the chapter. The chapter has continued their work with the Girl Scouts. They are involved with the Cancer Smart Shop. The Cancer Smart Shop is designed to promote healthy eating, living and promoting cancer prevention and awareness. The Chapter is also involved in the Relay for Life again. I believe that this will be going on the first weekend in May. Minna has transferred to Case Western Reserve, and is involved in the Phi Rho colony that has started there. Jen and Elizabeth have both been invited to join Mortar Board.

*Tracy Egut*



This graphic was copied from the Ohio Department of Transportation web site.

## Life at the Ohio Department of Transportation

Let's see. Where should I start? First, I'll apologize if this article bores you to death. I would love to write a book about my time as an engineer thus far, but I don't have time for that, so I'll just try to give you a basic idea of what I do. I work for the Ohio Department of Transportation District 7. District 7's headquarters is in the booming metropolis of Sidney (a town almost as non-existent as Ada, except that we at least have a Wal-Mart). My district is responsible for all state routes and interstates in nine counties, including Interstate 75 though Dayton.

"Fortunately, the men with whom

I work love to joke around and make the office a very entertaining place."

I work in the production department at our district headquarters. The production department is responsible for design, contracts, real estate purchase and surveying. We also handle review for plans done by consultants. I work in design on a crew that consists of two engineers and four transportation technicians. My current project includes pave-

ment widening and ditch realignment as well as a culvert extension. My next projects include another pavement widening, a pavement resurfacing project on I75, and an interchange design for two state routes. Although some people in design specialize in certain areas such as bridge or traffic design, we all work on a variety of projects. Eventually, my specialty will be pavement design.

During my time at ODOT, I have discovered that working in design requires a lot of time spent at a computer. Fortunately, the men with whom I work love to joke around and make the office a very entertaining place. One benefit of working in design is that I have very little overtime.

Unless I have training or meetings all day, I usually work a standard eight hour day. The most surprising thing that I have learned at ODOT is that being in an

office does not always mean I have to wear a suit to work. Although my attire usually consists of dress pants and a nice shirt, on those mornings when I just don't care what I look like, jeans and work boots are perfectly acceptable.

In conclusion (yes, that's right, you can wake up now, I'm almost finished), ODOT is a great place to gain a wide variety of experiences in a fairly relaxed atmosphere. I've had a lot of incredible ex-

periences with a lot of incredible people in District 7 and am looking forward to con-



Starli Klobetanz, Ohio Northern—Iota alumna. A 2002 graduate.

tinuing my work for the state.

*Starli Klobetanz*

## An Active Remembers

Forgetfulness actually worked to my advantage this time. I kept forgetting to send a fond memory of Phi Rho to Tracy, but this weekend I saw her and she reminded me, and it just so happens that this all took place at the Orchid Ball! Months of anticipa-

tion for our very first Orchid Ball culminated in one splendid evening. I think everyone there had a great time, myself included. Everyone was laughing and dancing the whole evening and even if you weren't, my date pulled through and

made you laugh or dragged you onto the dance floor so you could shake your groove thang! "Who knew nerds could have so much fun?!" I can't wait til next year...

*Rachel Kurschat*



Happy couples danced the night away at the Orchid Ball.

*Photo By Andy Parks*

## Iota Chapter Alumni Association

Since I last wrote to you, we have taken great strides in area of an Alumnae Association. First of all at convention, it was made very clear to all of us that we are Alumnae not Alumni because we are female. Whoops ;) We drew up Bylaws based on examples from other Phi Rho Alumnae Associations. Those Bylaws have been voted on and approved. If you would like a copy of the Bylaws please contact myself or Tricia Fought. The next step was electing an executive board. This

too has been accomplished. As many of you already know, the results are as follows: Chairwoman—Tracy Egut, Secretary—Tricia Fought, Treasurer—Tracy Egut, Alumnae Events—Starli Klobetanz, and Chapter Support—Jaymini Naik. The executive board will tentatively hold it's first general meeting Saturday April 26th. This is the day following the Spring Epsilon Initiation. This way alumnae will only have to drive out one weekend for both events. We would

REALLY like to encourage ALL alumnae to attend this first meeting. Not only will it be our first meeting, but we also look forward to holding a welcoming ceremony to welcome the 2003 graduates into the association. This year the new alumnae will be Amanda Kowalski and Tricia Schroeder. The new members of the executive board are excited to get things up and running and to serve the sorority to the best of our abilities.

*Tracy Egut*

## An Alumni Remembers

My favorite Phi Rho memory is watching the Betas untangle the string for the Beta Big-Little night. When we had led the Betas to their starting places, let them open their eyes, and told them what they had to do, the expres-

sions on their faces were hilarious! There were accusations of hazing and playful complaining, especially when they started working up a sweat because they had worn warm clothes for the service project that Kristin had told

them they were doing. But it was all worth it when they made it to the other end of their string to find their Big waiting with lots of presents. ☺

*Tina Gregg*

## Upcoming Birthdays

4/11 Rachel Kurschat

4/13 Amanda Kowalski

4/21 Starli Klobetanz

4/26 Jeni Muskus

6/08 June Gauss

6/15 Ariane Petersen

6/16 Tricia Fought

