

# The AXA Leader

January 2013

Iota Theta Zeta, Arkansas State University

Vol. 53, No. 2

## Hospital CEO headlines Founders Day

Russell D. "Russ" Harrington Jr., Iota Theta 178, will be the featured speaker for the 54th annual Founders Day banquet of Iota Theta Zeta on Saturday, April 13. The banquet will begin at 6:30 p.m. in Centennial Hall of the Arkansas State University Student Union.

Brother Russ, a resident of Little Rock, is president and chief executive officer of Baptist Health, which is composed of seven hospitals, including a long-term acute-care facility; Parkway Village Inc., a retirement community; Parkway Health Center, a 75-bed skilled care facility; Parkway Heights, a residential care facility; Ginny & Bob Shell Alzheimer's Center (at Parkway Village); and a medical service organization.

He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from ASU and a master's degree in health services management from the University of Missouri in Columbia.

Prior to becoming president and CEO of Baptist Health in January 1984, he served as associate executive director of Baptist Health, administrator of Baptist Health Medical Center-Little Rock, executive director of Baptist Memorial Hospital in Kansas City, assistant administrator of Baptist Health Medical Center-Little Rock and administrative assistant at the University Hospital in Little Rock.

Among his many awards, in 1987 he was chosen as a distinguished alumnus of ASU. He is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE), a past president of the Fifty for the Future, a member of the Governor's Roundtable on Health Care and a past chairman of the Little Rock Regional Chamber of Commerce

He and his wife Donna have two



Russ Harrington

children, Stephanie and Brooks, and two grandsons, Cole and Patrick. They are members of Immanuel Baptist Church, where he serves as a deacon and a choir member.

He will be introduced by Charlie Crow, Iota Theta 81.

The banquet will be preceded by a reception outside Centennial Hall, starting at 6 p.m.

The weekend will begin with a "Texas Hold 'em Tournament at the house, beginning at 7 p.m. Friday. The last brother standing will split the proceeds with the house corporation.

On Saturday the annual meeting of the alumni association-house corporation, officially known as LXA at ASU Inc., will be held at 3:30 p.m. in the Alumni Room at the house.

Among other business is the election of six alumni to the corporation board. Members whose terms are expiring are Jim Stearns, David Merrell, Barry Forrest, Brent Davis, Pete Mur-

### *Schedule*

#### **Friday**

7 p.m. — Texas Hold 'em Tournament for alumni, LXA House

#### **Saturday**

3:30 p.m. — LXA at ASU Inc. annual meeting, House, Alumni Room

6-6:30 p.m. — Reception for alumni, Student Union (outside meeting hall).

6:30 p.m. — Banquet, Centennial Hall, ASU Student Union

- Introduction of featured speaker

— Charlie Crow

- Speaker — Russell D. Harrington Jr., Iota Theta 178

- House Corp. report — Jim Stearns

- High Alpha report, chapter awards

— Allen Horton

#### **Sunday**

11 a.m. — Chapter church: Journey Campus of Central Baptist Church, Centennial Hall, ASU Student Union

phy and Chris West. Twelve board members serve 2-year terms, with six slots coming open each year. Automatically on the board are the High Pi, High Alpha and High Tau.

Treasurer Roy Ockert will give a financial report on the state of the house corporation, and Forrest, as vice president for fund raising, will discuss the High Five for Lambda Chi capital campaign.

President Stearns will preside over the meeting.

Chapter church will be Sunday at 11 a.m. at the Journey Campus of Central Baptist Church, which is held in Centennial Hall, the site of the banquet. Alumni are welcome.

The ASU football team, which will be in spring practice at the time, will probably have a major scrimmage on Saturday, but the time has not been set.

# 24 new brothers initiated into zeta

Twenty-four members of the fall associate class were initiated as full members of Lambda Chi Alpha during initiation ceremonies in early January.

Following is some basic information about each new brother.

- **Brock Acebo**, Zeta No. 1380, is a biology premed major from Jonesboro. Shortly after being initiated, he stepped up to fill the office of the High Epsilon. Brock is an Honors student and plays rugby for the Red Wolves; he also played rugby in high school. Brock wanted to be a Lambda Chi because of how respectable and sociable we are as men.

- **Dallas Berry**, Zeta No. 1381, is one of the few out-of-state associates, coming from Poplar Bluff, Mo., where he attended high school. Before transferring to Arkansas State, Dallas was a goalie for his soccer team at his previous college. He played soccer in high school and is an exercise science major. Dallas has learned what a strong and unbreakable bond Lambda Chi has and says he will never lose that bond with any brother.

- **Miles Clover**, Zeta No. 1382, is a sports management major from Fort Smith. He splits his time away from the fraternity as the ASU baseball team manager. Miles is a family-oriented man. When he saw what Lambda Chi offered, he immediately knew he could form a family here away from home.

- **Alex Coughlin**, Zeta No. 1383, is from Cabot, like fellow associate Spence Hart. Alex is undecided for a major at the moment but says he will have his major decided before the year is over. Alex saw the fraternity as something more than just a place to party. He wanted to join something bigger than himself.

- **Aaron Duty**, Zeta No. 1384, is from Paragould, where several members of last year's associate class attended high school. He is undecided for a major but looks to find something soon. He played baseball in high school. Aaron has learned a lot about brotherhood in his short time here and hopes to see more as the years go on.

- **Trent Edwards**, Zeta No. 1385, is a physical therapy major from Piggott.

While in high school Trent played baseball and basketball. He is one-fourth Apache Indian and really loves the brotherhood aspect of being a Lambda Chi and always having someone there for you.

- **Percy Garcia**, Zeta No. 1386, is a psychology major from Poplar Bluff, Mo., where he played football in high school. Percy wanted to be a Lambda Chi because it's not about partying and getting to know people. It has a deeper meaning than anyone knows, and that helps you better yourself as a man.

- **Graham Gardner**, Zeta No. 1387, is a middle education major from Caruthersville, Mo. While in high school Graham played football. After going through formal rush and meeting everyone, Graham said he'd get the most out of his time in college by going Lambda Chi and making the most of what life has to offer him.

- **Caleb Garrett**, Zeta No. 1388, is the only associate from Bryant, where he played baseball, basketball and soccer in high school. Caleb is a physical education major and a resident assistant in Arkansas Hall. Caleb was voted his associate class president, and shortly after initiation he moved into the house. Caleb is the Low Epsilon, helping out Brock Acebo as needed. Caleb wanted to be a Lambda Chi thanks to the diversity of our fraternity. "There's not just one type of person that's a Lambda Chi," he said.

- **Spence Hart**, Zeta No. 1389, is an athletic training major from Cabot. He took over the office of High Theta shortly after being initiated. Spence wanted to join and learn from Lambda Chi because he saw that guys weren't judged on what they wear. He saw that no matter what the appearance was, the bond that each brother shared was what really brought them together and what really mattered.

- **Christian Haskins**, Zeta No. 1390, is from Little Rock and attended North Little Rock High school. While in high school Christian was a wrestler. At A-State he is majoring in political science. He went into the semester looking for something he could call home and find people he could rely on. Christian came out with something much more than that.

- **Morgan Hawley**, Zeta No. 1391, is an athletic training major from Marmaduke and an Honors student. While in high school he played basketball and baseball and was all-state in both. Morgan is the reigning Mr. Greek Adonis. He could not hear enough about the fraternity from his older brother **Logan**, who had gone through as a senior in the fall of 2011. Morgan never really thought this lifestyle was for him until he actually saw it in person for himself. Now Morgan sees exactly what Logan was talking about and meant and could not be happier with his decision to become a part of Lambda Chi.

- **Nate Herbert**, Zeta No. 1392, is an athletic training major from Little Rock. He works on motorcycles in his free time. Nate has learned through Lambda Chi that even those who can come from complete opposites in life can all come together for one thing.

- **Bryce Hudspeth**, Zeta No. 1393, is the only associate from DeWitt, where he played football and was also in his high school band. Bryce is a biology major and a member of the ASU marching band. He was interested and wanted to become a Lambda Chi thanks to his dad (**Shawn Hudspeth**, Iota Theta 616) having gone through in 1984. After getting here, he really enjoyed the atmosphere and the kind of men that Lambda Chi offered.

- **Dane Leake**, Zeta No. 1394, a physical education major, is one of two associates from Memphis. While attending the same prep school as Dalton Stringer, Dane was recruited by Mississippi State for football but transferred to play at Arkansas State. In the off-season Dane suffered a hernia and was unable to continue his college football career. Dane is the Inter-Fraternal Council delegate for our chapter. Dane says the fraternity has opened his eyes to be a whole new man and make the most of himself in the world.

- **Landon Lee**, Zeta No. 1395, is a business administration major from Fort Smith. Landon was an all-state receiver while in high school. He has given an entire church sermon before and can speak

**Continued on page 3**

## Initiates ...

continued from page 2

before a crowd. He noticed from day one what a special and close bond the brothers share with each other.

- **Carter Lee**, Zeta No. 1396, from Sherwood is a rare double major in biology and chemistry. An intramural referee at ASU, he was on the Olympic development team for soccer for six years. Carter has wanted to be a Lambda Chi because of his dad (**Wayne Lee**, Iota Theta 357) from the beginning. After arriving on campus, Carter saw there was such a strong bond between all of the brothers, it was something that he had to be a part of.

- **Braden Pharis**, Zeta No. 1397, is an agriculture business major from Marked Tree, where he played football. He moved into the house shortly after initiation. Knowing few people at ASU, Braden was looking for friends, and he came out with brothers and a bond that will last for a lifetime.

- **Brandon Roe**, Zeta No. 1398, is a biology premed major from Jonesboro and an Honors student. Brandon played football and rugby in high school and is playing rugby now for the Red Wolves.

He saw that our chapter was the best available and was extremely happy that we had given him a bid. It means the world to him to be a Lambda Chi.

- **Aaron Schenk**, Zeta No. 1399, is an exercise science major from Paragould and joins several other current and new brothers from his hometown. He played football, golf and baseball in high school. Lambda Chi has taught Aaron that material things aren't important in life and to not take things for granted.

- **Dalton Stringer**, Zeta No. 1400, is an exercise science major from Memphis, where he played basketball at his prep school. He is a member of the staff in the Red Wolf fitness center. Dalton had transferred from another school and was looking for people he could get to know and now has more than 70 brothers he can always rely and call on whenever he needs them.

- **Dirk Tanner**, Zeta No. 1401, is a business management major from Little Rock, where he attended Pulaski Academy, played football and was a state champion in wrestling. Before coming to ASU, Dirk played defensive line at

Louisiana Tech University. Dirk. After seeing his brother (**Zeke Tanner**, Iota Theta 1329) go through and what he's learned from the fraternity, Dirk knew he wanted to be in the same organization. He has learned that fraternities in general are more than just parties, but ours especially is a deep bond of brotherhood.

- **Jacob Tucker**, Zeta No. 1402, is a biology premed major from Paragould and an Honors student. He played baseball while in high school. Jacob had been in touch with some of the brothers from Paragould and had heard how much Lambda Chi meant to them. After finding out for himself what it was really like, he could not be happier with his decision to go through Lambda Chi.

- **Dakota Watson**, Zeta No. 1403, is a nursing major from Crossett, where he attended Crossett High School. He filled the High Sigma office shortly after initiation. Dakota wanted to be a Lambda Chi because he felt he needed a change in his life. He felt that God opened the door to Lambda Chi, and that is where he fit in.

## Officers of Iota Theta Zeta for spring semester

Officers of Iota Theta Zeta for the spring semester are as follows:

- High Alpha (president), **Allen Horton**, Zeta No. 1322 — initiated in the fall of 2009; a broadcast major from Marshall; previously was High Delta; has served two terms as executive vice president of recruitment for the Inter-Fraternal Council, IFC president, Orientation Leader, Global Student Leader and chairman of the Council of Presidents.

- High Beta, **Nathan Tripod**, Zeta No. 1379 — initiated in the fall of 2011; a nursing major from Paragould; previously an Executive Board member.

- High Theta (external vice president), **Spence Hart**, Zeta No. 1389 — initiated in the fall of 2012; an athletic training major from Cabot.

- High Iota (risk manager), **Jacky Ray**

- **England**, Zeta No. 1361 — initiated in the fall of 2011; a mechanical engineering major from Rison and an Honors student.

- High Gamma (secretary), **Dylan Bateman**, Zeta No. 1355 — initiated in the fall of 2011; a history major from Paragould and an Honors student; vice president of community relations for the IFC.

- High Epsilon (social chairman), **Brock Acebo**, Zeta No. 1380 — initiated in the fall of 2012; a biology premed major from Jonesboro and an Honors student.

- High Kappa (fraternity educator), **Luke Guenrich**, Zeta No. 1320 — initiated in the fall of 2009, a biology education and physical education major from North Little Rock; previously High Delta.

- High Delta (recruitment chairman),

- **Dean Adams**, Zeta No. 1354 — initiated in the fall of 2011; a physical education major from Fordyce Arkansas.

- High Tau (treasurer), **Zack Draper**, Zeta No. 1360 — initiated in the fall of 2011; a civil engineering major from Malvern and an Honors Student.

- High Sigma (scholarship chairman), **Dakota Watson**, Zeta No. 1403 — initiated in the fall of 2012; a nursing major from Crossett.

- High Phi (ritualist), **Justin Miller**, Zeta No. 1375, initiated in the fall of 2011 — a marketing management major from Jonesboro.

- High Rho (alumni secretary), **Peter Hasik**, Zeta No. 1366 — initiated in the fall of 2011; a wildlife-ecology management major from Paragould; a desk assistant in Arkansas Hall.

# House corporation officers, directors

## **Jim Stearns** **President**

**Jim Stearns**, Iota Theta 669, is manager of outpatient cardiac rehabilitation at St. Bernards Medical Center, where he has been employed since 1992. His responsibilities include assessing and coordinating the educational needs and supervising exercise sessions for patients who have heart and lung disease. .

He associated in the fall of 1982 and was initiated into LXA on Jan. 3, 1983. During his active years he sat on the Bylaws & Constitution/Statutory Code committees. He was fund-raiser chairman for three years, served as High Phi, was on the High Kappa committee and help rewrite the fraternity education handbook.

Later he served as High Pi from January 1992 until May of 2001. He has been on the House Corp. board or Alumni Advisory board from August of 2001 until present in some form.

He graduated from Arkansas State University with a bachelor's degree in education in 1990 and a master's in exercise science in 1991.

He and wife Tracy have two children — Kirsten, 14, and Leah, 12.

Jim and Tracy also own and operate Stearns Race Timing, a sports promotion and timing company that directs and times running, cycling, triathlon races throughout the Mid-South.

**jimstearns@suddenlink.net**

## **David Merrell** **Vice president of programming**

**David Merrell**, Iota Theta 719, is a territory manager for Green Dental Laboratories.

He graduated from Arkansas State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in marketing in 1990. He was initiated in January 1986 and has been on the house corporation board for three years, the last two of which he has been vice president of programming. His responsibilities include planning alumni activities such as Founders Day and the Homecoming tailgate.

He and his wife Dawn have been mar-

ried for 22 years. Daughter Emily is a freshman at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway. Son Reece is a ninth-grader at Annie Camp Junior High School.

**dmerrell67@gmail.com**

## **Barry Forrest** **Vice president of fund raising**

**Barry Forrest**, Iota Theta 551, is president of Forrest Office Machine in Jonesboro. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from ASU.

He associated with Iota Theta Zeta in 1978, and during his years at ASU he served as social chairman, vice president and president. He attended four conclaves and two national assemblies.

Brother Barry has been active in the house corporation and alumni affairs off and on (mostly on) for for more than 25 years. Every year the active brothers cook Boston butts for their fund-raiser, and Barry is the head chef for this project.

"I have three kids — two boys and one girl," Barry said. "I am very proud to say that both the boys are members of Lambda Chi Alpha."

Wife Dana is also active with helping the brothers with projects. The family enjoys going to their cabin at Lake Norfolk and hunting and fishing.

**bwforrest@sbcglobal.net**

## **Roy Ockert Jr.** **Treasurer**

**Roy Ockert Jr.**, Iota Theta 203, retired as editor of The Jonesboro Sun last Feb. 1 after more than 50 years in newspapering and journalism education. He continues to write a weekly column for The Sun and the Stephens Media Group, and organization with about 15 newspaper clients

He was initiated as a Lambda Chi in 1964 and served for two years as the chapter's editor. He earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from ASU in 1967 and a master's in journalism two years later from the University of Oklahoma.

He was managing editor of The Batesville Guard for 13 years, managing editor

and then editor of The Courier at Russellville for five and a half years. Shortly after his company bought The Sun, he was transferred to Jonesboro in 2001.

He is a former president of the Arkansas Press Association, Arkansas Associated Press Managing Editors Association and Arkansas Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. He is treasurer of the Arkansas Newspaper Foundation.

He and his wife, the former Pat Montgomery of Jonesboro, have two daughters and three grandchildren.

Brother Roy has served as treasurer since 2005.

**royo@suddenlink.net**

## **Pete Murphy** **Secretary**

**Peter D. "Pete" Murphy**, Iota Theta 710, has been a financial advisor for Wells Fargo Advisors of Jonesboro for 20 years.

After graduating from Arkansas State University in 1989, he did a brief stint with a trucking business in Blytheville, then took a position with A.G. Edwards, the predecessor firm to Wells Fargo.

Brother Pete has served on the House Corp. board since 2011. He was initiated in the spring of 1985. While an active, he won the best Junior Member award.

He is active in First Baptist Church, serving as a sixth-grade Sunday School teacher for the past 16 years, as well as being on the leadership group that started a local apartment church.

He is married to Sarah Wiggins Murphy, and they have two children — Trevor, 18, and Mallory, 15. They enjoy traveling and spending time around their pool.

**petemurphy66@gmail.com**

## **Delane Hogan** **Director**

**Delane Hogan**, Iota Theta 633, has been in agricultural equipment sales since his college days and currently is location manager for Greenway Equipment in Jonesboro. Greenway is one of the largest John Deere organizations in the United States.

Brother Delane was initiated in the

spring of 1982, and while active served as rush chairman and a member of the executive committee. He graduated in the spring of 1986 with a Bachelor of Science degree in journalism with an emphasis in public relations.

He served on the Craighead County Quorum Court from 2000-06 and is a member of the Jonesboro Kiwanis Club. His hobbies include hunting, fishing, golfing and scuba diving, and he loves watching all ASU athletic teams.

Delane is married to Lisa, and they have one daughter, Haven, who is a senior at Nettleton High School.

**dhogan@gogreenway.com**

### **Brent Davis**

#### **Director**

**Brent Davis**, Iota Theta 424, has been a circuit judge in the 2nd Judicial District of Northeast Arkansas since being elected without opposition in 2009. Prior to that, he served 16 years as the district's prosecuting attorney.

Brother Brent was a 1974 initiate of Iota Theta and graduated from ASU in 1978. He went on to the University of Arkansas Law School in Fayetteville and earned his law degree in 1981. He then returned to his hometown of Jonesboro, where he has worked in the legal field for 32 years.

Known as "Chili" in his college days, he served as High Beta and attended the National Conclave in August 1977.

"My brothers in LXA literally helped me get through law school and where I am today," he said. "Three of my associate brothers were roommates of mine during the law school years, and a fourth was with us in Fayetteville working on a degree. Ben Caruth, David Nix and Roger Forsythe and Sam Hurley were like real family and helped me survive the stress and even make it memorable."

He is married to the former Terry King, an Alpha Omicron Pi alumna who graduated from ASU in 1982.

**brentdavis5@suddenlink.net**

### **Jeff Clayton**

#### **Director**

**Jeffery E. Clayton**, Iota Theta 610, became a board certified anesthesiologist in October 2010 and is on staff at St. Ber-

nards Hospital in Jonesboro.

He was initiated in the spring of 1981. After an extended, and at times a delayed education, he finally graduated in the spring of 1989 with a Bachelor of Science degree in broadcast communications and a minor in computer information systems. As an active member of Lambda Chi, he served as social chairman and ritualist.

Shortly after graduating, he moved to Little Rock and began working for Siemens Energy and Automation while continuing his education at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He was accepted to the University of Health Sciences, Kansas City, Mo., in 1998. He received his doctorate in osteopathic medicine in 2002 and completed a 4-year residency program in anesthesia at Des Peres Hospital, St. Louis, in 2006.

He is married to Nancy Sue Bradley Clayton, a 1979 University of Arkansas graduate.

Jeff loves to play golf and pocket billiards. He is still attempting to learn how to play the 5-string banjo.

**gone2study@aol.com**

### **Chris West**

#### **Director**

**Chris West**, Iota Theta 1264, is the newest member of the house corporation board, replacing Matt Carlisle, who resigned after he moved to Little Rock. Since May 2010 he has been the product engineer for Nibco Inc. at its Blytheville facility.

Brother Chris was initiated in the fall of 2006. During his time he served as High Rho (alumni chairman), High Theta (external vice president) and High Beta (internal vice president). He graduated in the spring of 2010 with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering.

He has been married for almost two years; his wife Mallory teaches third grade at Brookland Elementary School. Their family also includes two dogs.

His hobbies include, bowling, golf, softball, deer and duck hunting, and spending as much time at the lake in the summer as possible.

**cwest1264@yahoo.com**

### **Brandon Buhrmester**

#### **Director**

**Brandon Burhmester**, Iota Theta 1083, the other member of the Forrest family on the LXA at ASU board, owns Allied Small Engines in Jonesboro.

He has served on the house corporation board for two years.

During his active years as a Lambda Chi, he served as alumni chairman. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business from ASU in 2004.

He and the former Holly Winter have been married for seven years, and they have a son Cade, 3 1/2 years old, and twin boys who are expected to arrive in February.

Brother Brandon enjoys hunting, snow skiing, marksmanship, riding 4-wheelers and building Jeeps for 4-wheeling.

**bbuhrmester@hotmail.com**

### **Jeff Simmons**

#### **Director**

**Jeff Simmons**, Iota Theta 703, in 1999 formed Arkansas Tax Associates Inc., a sales and use tax consulting group for more than 250 manufacturers in the state and some 50 cities and counties. He also owns Crown Trophy in Jonesboro, purchased in 2009.

Brother Jeff was initiated in the fall of 1984 and served as High Sigma for the chapter. He graduated in the spring of 1989, earning a bachelor's degree in accounting. He went to work for the State of Arkansas as an auditor before leaving the state to establish his business.

Brother Jeff is married to the former Lisa Beasley, and they have three children — Sloane, Slade and Cade.

**jeff.simmons@arktax.com**

### **Steve Whitmire**

#### **Director**

Steve Whitmire, Iota Theta 738, lives in Brookland and works for Aramark as a sales representative and trainer.

He and wife Adria have two daughters, Grace Ann, 13 and Emma, 9, both attending Brookland schools.

Steve spends his time hunting and helping with daughter's softball teams, and he serves on the Jonesboro Softball Association board.



## *Brotherhood at Little Rock*

Two founding members of Iota Theta Zeta — Alfred Lindsey (left) of Little Rock, Zeta No. 4, and Mike Phillips of North Little Rock, Zeta No. 105 — trade war stories during an alumni reception held in Little Rock last September. It was the second year for the capital city event.

—Photo by Mike Mallory

## Omega for three brothers of Iota Theta

### **John Edward Damron**

John Edward Damron, 70, of Jonesboro, Iota Theta No. 389, passed away Monday, Dec. 24, 2012.

Mr. Damron was born on Dec. 3, 1942, in Memphis. He served for seven years as a sergeant in the U.S. Marine Corps as a classified radio operations specialist. He graduated from Arkansas State University and worked in the family business, Damron Construction Co.

He was retired from Lowe's Home Improvement, where he worked in the millwork department.

He was a member of the Southwest Church of Christ, Frierson Street Church of Christ and Main & Oak Church of Christ for more than 50 years.

Survivors include his father, H.E. "Dude" Damron of Jonesboro; a brother and his wife, Jim and Carole Damron; four nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Minnie Ruth Damron, and a sister, Vicki McMinn Jimerson.

A celebration of his life was held Thursday, Dec. 27, at Gregg-Langford Bookout Funeral Home in Jonesboro. Burial was in Jonesboro Memorial Park Cemetery.

The family suggested that memorials be made to The Children's Home Inc., 5515 Walcott Road, Paragould 72450.

### **Stephen Grilletta**

Stephen "Steve" Robert Grilletta, 62, of Jonesboro, Iota Theta No. 303, died Thursday, Jan. 17, 2013, at the Flo and Phil Jones Hospice House following a valiant fight with cancer.

He was born Oct. 11, 1950, at New Orleans and was the son of Steve and Gladys Grilletta. A native of New Orleans, he was a longtime resident of Jonesboro.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Warren Grilletta, and aunt and uncle, Betty and Benny Ellender, with whom he resided in his youth.

Grilletta graduated from Jonesboro High School in 1968 and Arkansas State, where he was a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. He was a freelance videographer.

A celebration of his life was held Saturday, Jan. 19, at Bennigan's in Jonesboro.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggested that donations be considered to Northeast Arkansas Arkansans for Animals in care

of Wannda Turner, P.O. Box 10075, Jonesboro 72403; Northeast Arkansas Humane Society, P.O. Box 1042, Jonesboro 72403; or Flo and Phil Jones Hospice House, 1138 East Matthews Ave., Jonesboro 72401.

### **Marvin William Buerkle**

Marvin William Buerkle, 70, of Memphis, Iota Theta 135, passed away on Oct. 31, 2012, according to The Commercial Appeal.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William and Marvine Buerkle, and two brothers, Richard and Mark Buerkle.

He was survived by his wife, Sherry Buerkle; daughters, Melanie Surgener and Laura Brotherton; grandchildren Alyssa and Stephanie Surgener, Victoria, Zachary and Owen Brotherton; sister-in-laws Lena and Brenda Buerkle; and nephews Rick and Ryan Buerkle.

He graduated from Jonesboro High School in 1960, then from Arkansas State University with a bachelor of science degree in mathematics in 1964 and later earned a master's degree from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville.

He was a veteran and passionate about his historical work.

Zeta number \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, state, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Initiation year \_\_\_\_\_ Years at ASU \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed:

Alumni dues for 2013: \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ (due and payable Jan. 1, 2013)

If a graduate in 2008 or later: \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

Note: Annual dues are waived for anyone pledging \$100 a year for five years or making a one-time contribution of at least \$500.

Retire the Mortgage Fund (goes directly to principal): \$\_\_\_\_\_

High Five for Lambda Chi capital campaign:

This is a payment on my pledge: \_\_\_\_\_

(or)

This is a one-time contribution: Enclosed \_\_\_\_ (or) To be paid on this date \_\_\_\_\_

(or)

I am making a pledge to be paid: Monthly \_\_\_\_ Quarterly \_\_\_\_ Semi-annually \_\_\_\_ Annually \_\_\_\_  
over \_\_\_\_ years.

I will be attending Founders Day April 13:

Banquet tickets: Individual, \$30 \_\_\_\_ Couple, \$50 \_\_\_\_

(Make checks payable to LXA at ASU Inc.)

Signed by \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

Roy Ockert, Treasurer  
LXA House Corp.  
2815 Spring Valley Drive  
Jonesboro, Ark. 72404  
royo@suddenlink.net

**We always need news items about alumni for next edition of The Leader. Please send to me at the above address or by e-mail.**

# Stay in touch

Lambda Chi Alpha at ASU is maintaining a new Web site, which serves both the active chapter and alumni. It includes a means by which alumni can update their contact information and find other brothers, but we need your help. We can only include brothers for whom we have a valid e-mail address. At present we have only about 550.

Please go to the Web site ([www.asulxa.com](http://www.asulxa.com)) and see if you're listed. If so, you should register and update your contact information. If not, contact me at the e-mail address below, and you will be added. Once you're registered, please look for other missing brothers for whom you may have helpful information, and forward to me.

Meanwhile, our old alumni Web site, created in connection with the 50th annual Founders Day celebration, remains active: <http://sites.google.com/site/iotatheta50>.

You can also find us on Facebook. Just look for Lambda Chi Alpha at Arkansas State University. If you're already in Facebook, just send a request to join to one of the brothers listed as administrators.

Meanwhile, use the dues form to update us on address changes.

Roy Ockert #203 — [royo@suddenlink.net](mailto:royo@suddenlink.net)

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**Lambda Chi Alpha at ASU Inc.  
c/o Roy Ockert  
2815 Spring Valley Drive  
Jonesboro, Ark. 72404**

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**Return postage guaranteed**