

Muse

Volume 4 • Issue 2

Alpha Phi Omega

Spring • 2009

Spring 2009 Executive Board



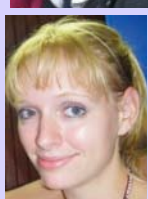
President
Karen Krogman
kkrogman@indiana.edu



VP Membership
Alex Luboff
aluboff@indiana.edu



VP Service
Kim Biberstein
kimbiber@indiana.edu



VP Finance
Angela Wuerth
awuerth@indiana.edu



VP Communication
Laura Sargent
sargentl@indiana.edu

Rain failed to dampen spirits at 19th annual Rubber Duck Regatta



By: Shilpa Reddy -- For Mu's 19th annual Rubber Duck Regatta, which took place April 19th, the chapter teamed up with Make-A-Wish to benefit Austin, a three year old Bloomington boy diagnosed with leukemia whose wish is to experience the magic and wonder of Disney World. Austin and his family's appearance at Rubber Duck resonated with all who were present and served as a reminder of the Regatta's ability to help a young boy's dream come true. With an initial goal of \$4,000, Mu went above and beyond by raising over \$5,000 and counting. The rain kept most of the festivities inside the KIVA room of the Union this year, but the rubber ducks still raced down Jordan River and Kim Matthews won first place with Bono the duck. Everyone at the event enjoyed numerous activities including piñatas, face painting, coloring, the tunes of Alex J. Hughes, and special guest appearances by Eeyore, Tigger, and our own rubber duck mascot. Prizes included gift cards and merchandise from local restaurants, APO embroidered hats, and of course, duck-themed toys and knick-knacks. Items that were auctioned off included a Bill Lynch signed football



and a Tom Crean autographed basketball. Thanks to all who contributed their effort, time, and support. With everyone's help, Austin's chance to take off to Disney World is on its way to coming true. Let's wish the best for him and his family as they depart to Disney for a long-lasting and memorable experience.

Top picture: Members of Mu pie each other in the face. This was one of the many activities of the day.

Below: Austin, the child we were sponsoring through Make-A-Wish, has fun inside playing games and getting his face painted.



Rubber Duck Regatta a Great Success!



Like what you see and wish you had helped out?

Rubber Duck Regatta 2009 was a lot of fun.

If you missed out there are many more opportunities to help out Mu. Look out for our fall project as well as the 2010 Rubber Duck Regatta.

We would love any and all support of our alumni.

To the left: Adam Lundy helps launch the rubberducks down the Jordan River.
Top left: Ashley Tsuruda paints a Rubberduck on someone's face.
Top right: Adam Lundy, Jessica Beck, and Jordan Hammers color pictures of rubberducks to decorate the event.
Above: Children play a fishing game where they won fun prizes.



Pledge Water Balloon Project a Huge Success!



By: Nicole Budzynski -- The Spring 2009 pledge class completed their pledge project on Thursday, April 16, by hosting IU's Biggest Water Balloon Fight as a fundraiser for the March of Dimes. The event, which was held in Dunn Meadow, hosted 136 students who took part in a water balloon fight with over 13,000 water balloons, all of which were filled by members of the pledge class.

In addition to the balloon fight, the event also had live music, food, and games. Students played "cornhole" and a rubber duck game advertising the upcoming Rubber Duck Regatta. Before and during the water balloon fight, partici-

pants enjoyed the music of the hip-hop duo Fly Boy Ent and the alternative band On The House. The Indiana Chapter Community Director of the March of Dimes, Hannah Cartwright, also spoke and expressed her gratitude for all the pledges' work.

The event was a great bonding experience for the pledge class, which was divided into committees including Public Relations, Balloon Logistics, Finance, Event Logistics, and Activities. Freshman pledge Amy Fuhs said of the event, "It was a lot of work, but it was worth it in the end. Everyone had a great time, and we raised a lot of money for a fantastic cause."



Membership Update

By Alex Luboff-- It was a fabulous semester for Muse on the Membership Front. The Pledge Class pulled off one of the most successful projects in years, we're retained most of our new Actives, our Pledge class looks to beat the National average of retention as well, and we have grown our base of recruitment to a more diverse and motivated sector. In this, Mu's 80th Anniversary Year, I am happy to report that the membership is quite strong. We averaged over 3 socials per week, with well more than 2 of those 3 being free, and I am personally happy to have accomplished that during this economic hardship that we are in. It was a big semester of firsts and new challenges for APO, but a new found dedication has spurred great growth. This fall, we are looking to launch our biggest and most highly publicized Rush ever, and with a chapter that quickly approaches 150 Active members (after Initiation this Sunday), we look to grow our numbers and expand our leadership in and devotion to improving the organization, the campus, the community, our nation, and our world. I would like to thank my committee, my chairs, and the brothers of Mu during this great semester.

Fundraising Update

By Angela Wuerth-- As the year is coming to an end, Mu chapter is wrapping up its fundraisers. The last fundraiser we had was a date auction that took place on Buffalouie's. At the date auction, APO members raised \$368 for Make-a-Wish foundation by selling themselves off as dates or for "bromances." Some members even baked cookies or cakes for their potential dates in hopes that it would help them raise more money. Two Alpha Phi Omega members, Christina Byrne and Alaura Ruterbories, sold or over \$50. Fundraising chair Lizzie Solik claims that the date auction was a considerable success and says that it went a lot better than she expected.

Mu Chapter's 80th Anniversary

A weekend of service, friendship, and many Mu memories!

Friday 11/13 - Saturday 11/14

Formal Invitation coming soon!

Check out <http://www.indiana.edu/~apo/80th/anniversary.html> for more info

Please send your Mu photos to Erica and Melanie for a slideshow at banquet!

Erica Honeywell: ehoneywe@indana.edu

Melanie Woodworth: mawoodwo@indiana.edu

APO Comes in Fourth Place for Relay For Life Fundraising



Above: APO members participate in a tug of war during Relay for Life.

By: Ashley Tsuruda-- This year's Relay for Life at Indiana University took place at the Billy Hayes Track on April 4th and 5th. Fifty members of Alpha Phi Omega joined 51 other teams at the track to walk for hours on end for the fight towards a cure for cancer. Fundraising for the event had a rocky start, but with excitement, members asked family and friends for generous donations towards a great cause. APO's team ended up raising over \$2400 for Relay for Life and the American Cancer Society, coming in 4th place out of 52 teams in terms of amount of money raised. In addition, during the 16 hours of the event, APO members were able to rack in a 2nd place prize for activities throughout the night. Thankfully the rain waited until the 3 hours after Relay for Life was over, allowing everyone to have a great time in beautiful weather. Also, team members were able to rough it through the night without the use of a tent. A few very awesome people stayed the entire time or almost the entire time at Relay for Life, which deserves a shout out. Relay for Life is always a great event for Alpha Phi Omega members to participate in and this year was no exception. A special thanks also goes out to alumni who made donations towards the cause.

Bylaws

By: Alex Luboff-- On April 19th, Mu passed some new Bylaws to change both the face of and focus of chapter for the future, which will surely hold great challenges and even greater possibilities. The majors changes were among format in the Executive Board, which has now added a new member in the Vice President of Leadership, and the extension of voting rights to the Pledge Trainers to vote on behalf of the Pledge class and their ever-present interests. To view these and other changes, please e-mail Bylaws Chair Alex Luboff at aluboff@indiana.edu and get the final slate of Bylaws for Spring 2009.

Letter from the President

As the end of the semester nears, I would like to show my appreciation for all of the actives, pledges, and alumni that have helped improve Mu this semester. By initiating 49 members this spring, I feel that we have not only increased our membership, but we have improved the overall quality of our fraternity. Additionally, we have seen more active members taking on leadership roles. The area of leadership is often overshadowed by friendship and service, but I am extremely impressed with all the hard work and emerging leaders our active body has produced this semester. Mu has also added many new service projects to our calendar. With a goal of 6000 hours completed by the whole chapter, I think you are able to tell we are continually striving to serve the community in every way possible.

With Mu chapter's 80th anniversary quickly approaching in the fall, I would like to challenge our alumni to keep in touch with our chapter. Many of our actives are anxious to meet more past and present brothers, and starting

correspondence now will just increase the anticipation for our anniversary celebration. If you have any suggestions for service projects, ideas for brotherhood bonding, or would just like to share a memory of Mu, please email us. Your stories and service have made the chapter what it is today, and it would be wonderful to compile all of the stories of leadership, friendship, and service.



The end of the semester also means the end of my time in Mu chapter. I pledged the fall of my freshman year, and have been amazed at the progress, transitions, and amount of service completed by our members. My next adventure is attending law school at Michigan State University. I know my involvement with Alpha Phi Omega has shaped my career goal of becoming a child and family law attorney, and I truly desire to continue to serve my community and motivate those around me. I'm sure you would hear many similar stories from actives that plan to continue to serve the community and showcase our cardinal principles in their daily lives.



Service Update

By: Kim Biberstein-- Mu is enjoying the wonderful weather of spring and taking advantage of service outdoors as well as inside. Besides being so busy with the pledge project and our Rubber Duck Regatta, we have done several gardening days on and outside of campus, learning all we can about how to mulch, plant flowers in planters, and even getting expert gardening advice from the Wonderlab gardening staff.

Weekly, we attend three events: Pages to Prisoners, the Rise, and the waste audit which is showing the amount of recyclable goods being placed in the trash on campus. We also work at Hoosier Hills Food Bank and Community Kitchen once a month.

Earlier this month, we had a giant team walk for Relay for Life, and on that same day, a few of us went to Indianapolis to help the Boy Scouts with their impressively large Pinewood Derby.

We also continued a very popular service project last fall by going to Bell Trace, a local retirement community, and playing Euchre with the residents. We are currently planning our final Friday event. With all of the days we have played for fun, we are all excited to be competing in a tournament.

We were all disappointed our semester Highway Cleanup was canceled last month because of a thunderstorm. We are currently planning on rescheduling and crossing our fingers that Mother Nature is a bit kinder!

Because our chapter is growing so rapidly, we are able to be involved in a huge range of service projects all over Bloomington and into Indianapolis, which we would have never had the help to do before. Everyone has been able to find projects that fit their interests and talents, and Mu's overall excitement has been astonishing.

APO Kicks Off Little 500 Week at the Little 50



APO's two little 50 teams:

Girls Team: Masha Puzanov, Alaura Ruterbories, Ashley Tsuruda, and Allison Shenker

Guys Team: David Burkart, Jon Bereman, Tim Solon, and Winston Hunter

By: Ashley Tsuruda-- This year Alpha Phi Omega formed teams for IU's Little 50. This grueling race consists of teams of 4, racing around the track for a total of 50 laps, or 12.5 miles. The women's team consisted of two actives and two pledges. The men's team consisted of three actives and one pledge. It was a great experience to participate in the Greatest College Weekend by running in the Little 50. Both teams have been training since February, mostly individually, but as the race got closer, more workouts were done together. Qualifications were held at the Fieldhouse on March 2nd. The women's team qualified in 17th place and the men qualified in 25th place. A total of 25 women's teams and 25 men's teams qualified for the race, which took place on April 23rd at the Billy Hayes Track. Both teams ran their hearts out and tried their best on race day. Despite the challenges faced to participate in a race like this, all team members didn't give up. The women's team, consisting of Masha Puzanov, Alaura Ruterbories, Ashley Tsuruda, and Allison Shenker, finished in 17th place. The men's team, consisting of David Burkart, Jon Bereman, Tim Solon, and Winston Hunter, finished in 25th place. With only two of these members being graduating seniors, we plan on making participation in the Little 50 a new tradition for Alpha Phi Omega, and we have high hopes for their performances in years to come.