

**Music, Friendship, and  
Harmony!**▶ **Volume 5, Issue 1****Message from “The Editor”**

Hello alumni! I hope you all have had a great summer and good start to the fall season! We have a new member on Alumni committee this semester from our latest pledge class Mu Xi: Zoë Jones and already as a chapter, we are planning some big events! For those of you who are new alumni or do not know me yet, my name is Becky Schwab and I am a junior, percussionist, music therapy student. I have been an active Mu Phi member since the spring of 2015. As a committee and fraternity, we would like to keep up the strong relationship that we are developing with you. These newsletters will include a lot of events that have already occurred and what is to come. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you know of any new information that you may want to be in the newsletter. Also, if you are not getting any of the updates, feel free to send me your contact information so you can be just as involved as our active members. I am looking forward to a great semester and I hope to be able to see you for as many events that you are able to go to!

Mu Love!

Becky Schwab, Alumni Secretary

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**AZ Faculty Advisor—Dr. Robert Trent in Concert!**

On September 25th Dr. Trent and guest artist, Marco Battaglia, performed on guitar as *Duo Fabricatore* at the Covington Center. This performance included a variety of works by Beethoven and Haydn. Both performers used period guitars in the performance, which means that the guitars used were not modern classical guitars, but guitars made during the time period in which the music was composed. The concert was well attended from Mu Phi members, Dr. Trent’s studio members, and other guests from the surrounding area. The recital was full of artistry and was a great example of guitar interpretations of classical pieces.



Above: *Duo Fabricatore* performing in the Covington Center

**All About The Candidates!**

As of Sept. 17th, 2016 the Alpha Zeta chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon is proud to have initiated a new candidate for membership!!! On the next page is a short bio about our potential member. We feel that it’s very important that alumni get to know the candidates and that the candidates feel like the entire Fraternity (past and present) is involved in their pledge process.

We asked the candidate five questions just to get a general idea of who he is and what he is like, but if you would like more information please contact your Alumni Secretary!

## Eric Garner

### 1. What is your year/major/instrument?

Senior/Music Business/Guitar

### 2. What area are you from?

Fredericksburg, VA

### 3. What are some of your favorite things to do that are not music related?

Watch movies; I also like to drive and see new places.

### 4. If you could spend a day with any one person (past or present) who would it be?











Aristotle or George Washington

### 5. Why did you want to join Mu Phi Epsilon?

I wanted to join because I wanted to get involved and be a part of a good group and community before I [graduated].



## October 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2	3	4	5	6	7 	8 
9 	10	11	12 	13 	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 	21 	22
23	24	25 	26	27	28	29 
30	31					

### Schedule of Events

- 10/1/16—Project Linus @ 9am
- 10/7 & 9/16—Opera Roanoke's South Pacific @ 7:30pm & 3pm
- 10/8/16—MPE Phun Phall Phest—**POSTPONED DUE TO WEATHER**
- 10/12/16—Fall Honors Recital @ 7:30pm
- 10/13/16—Inauguration of President Brian O. Hemphill
- 10/20/16—Choral Ensembles Concert @ 7:30pm
- 10/21/16—Game Night! @ 7:30pm
- 10/25/16—Jazz Ensembles Concert @ 7:30pm
- 10/29/16—Halloween Hangout @ 4pm

**Upcoming Events:** 11/1/16—RU Guitar Ensemble @ 7:30pm; 11/3/16—MPE Hangout "Flannel Themed" @ 6pm; 11/4/16 MPE Progressive Dinner (Time TBA); 11/9/16—RU Opera Workshop @ 7:30pm; 11/11-13/16—RU Nutcracker; 11/12/16—Adam McAllister Friendsgiving @ 3pm; 11/13/16—MPE Alpha Zeta Fall Concert @ 6pm; 11/15/16-RU Percussion Ensemble @ 7:30pm; 11/16/16—Symphonic Band Concert @ 7:30pm; 11/17/16—Missy Caton Senior Recital @ 7:30pm; 12/2/16—Kayla Short Senior Recital @ 7:30pm; 12/2- 3/16—Madrigal Dinner @ 7:30pm; **12/4/16: AZ Alumni Dinner!!! (Time TBA)**; 12/7/16—Wind Ensemble (Members performing) @ 7:30pm; 12/8/16—Jazz Ensemble @ 7:30pm; 12/9/16—St. Andrews Choral Concert @ 7:30pm

## Tri-Fraternity Info Party

Once again, the three music fraternities at Radford gathered together for the Tri-Fraternity Info Party! Even though we had to relocate from our usual location in "The Cave" that didn't stop us from having a great time as always! There were a large amount of potential candidates in attendance and we had a great time getting to know them all! One of the most memorable aspects of this event is the comradery between the three music fraternities: SAI, PMA, and MΦE! There was singing, dancing, laughter, and a real sense of unity that we have worked very hard to develop and are very happy to share with the other organizations! Hopefully, we will continue to enhance the bond of friendship between the three music fraternities! We hope to have some potential candidates very soon and we look forward to sharing their journey with our alumni!

Written by Katie Metzler



Left: PMA singing their serenade to all the ladies!



Above: Members and potential candidates at Tri-Frat!

## Fall 2016 Informal Rushes!

On September 13th, we had our first informal rush for the Fall 2016 semester. Our theme was a 20's era Murder Mystery with four potential members in attendance! All of the guests were randomly assigned a character and everyone mingled through the party acting as their character, that is of course until someone "died" and then we all had to solve the murder! It was a fun night all around and it was great to meet some of the newer students!



Left: Blue and Red teams prepare to face off!



Above: All dressed up for the 20's Murder Mystery!  
Right: First two "victims" have died!



Our second informal rush was on September 16th. Everyone was randomly split up into the red or blue team to play Capture the Flag! The rules were set and the two teams faced off, hiding their flags between Porterfield Hall and the Covington Center. The red team found the flag of the blue team first but the second round ended in the championship of the blue team! It was a fun bonding experience for all of the current members and it was great getting to know our potential candidates for this semester or next!

Written by Alex Lyons

## Fall 2016 Formal Rush!

On September 17th, the Alpha Zeta Chapter had its fall formal rush. This semester's theme was a tea party with an Alice in Wonderland twist. With one potential member in attendance, everyone was dressed in their best tea party dresses and suits. We went through introductions and some of the members shared why they decided to become a member of Mu Phi Epsilon. After eating dinner, we brought out the giant chess set and a croquet game and spent some time outside in the nice weather. We are very proud to announce that Eric Garner was initiated as a candidate for membership into Mu Phi Epsilon!



Above: This chess game was HUGEly popular!



Above: Member Alex Lyons playing croquet!

Written by Zoë Jones



## Where Are They Now?—Mu Gamma Pledge Class

**Erin Bowling** is currently living in Indianapolis, IN with her boyfriend, Aaron and cat, Minnie. She is working as a Board Certified Music Therapist with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, traveling all over the Indianapolis area to see her clients in their homes. Erin still plays her saxophone from time to time, and was recently working on a guitar/saxophone piece with Sydne Rankins (Mu Epsilon class), who also lives in the area. Erin is looking for a new job on the east coast so that she can move closer to her family, and hopes to find something before the end of the year!

**Megan Walker** has started her second year as a Special Education teacher at Salem High School. She absolutely loves what she is doing and is getting work with some amazing students! She mostly teaches Math and English, but this year she gets to teach Science as well! "Teaching these incredible individuals makes my life fun, exciting, and occasionally exhausting! I really couldn't image doing anything else!" She has also been busy planning her wedding to Tyler. He is in the Marines and stationed in North Carolina and they will be getting married in December and spending their honeymoon at Disney World!

"Everything in life seems to be happening so fast. It seems like just a week ago I was hanging out with everyone in Mu Phi, going to club fair, having weekly meetings, attending rush, and doing community events! I have so many amazing memories from Mu Phi Epsilon that I



**Cristen Mitchell (Bralley)** and her husband, Brandon, are currently experiencing the joys of becoming new parents. Cristen gave birth to their baby girl, Anna Elaine Mitchell, on Tuesday, August 23rd at 12:25am. Anna was 8lb 10oz and 20 3/4in long. Cristen graduated from James Madison University with a Master's of Music in Choral Conducting on August 6th. She presented her lecture recital, Rosephanye Powell: Empowering Woman-kind Through Sacred Music on April 3, 2016. While at JMU Cristen held leadership roles in all of the auditioned Choral Ensembles including the advanced ensemble, The Madison Singers, who performed with Josh Groban on his Stages tour, and at the Piccolo Spoleto festival in Charleston, SC.

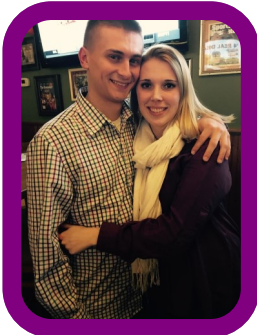


Cristen and Brandon live in their home in Staunton, VA. She has been continuing her professional career as a church music director at Tinkling Spring Presbyterian Church in Fishersville, VA. There she directs the Adult Chancel Choir, The Grace Bells Handbell Choir, Praise Band, Children's & Youth Music Ensemble, and oversees the Men's Chorus. Cristen hopes to eventually pursue a graduate degree in church music or worship, and participate as a clinician at church music conferences.

Written by Adam McAllister

## Mu Phi Happenings!

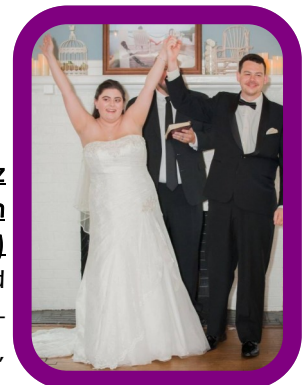
**Liza Sutphin (Mu Zeta)** married Jake Moles (member of PMA) on October 1st, 2016.



**Chris Smith (Mu Alpha) and Sara Slone (Mu Beta)** got married on June 26, 2016.



**Jessi Juhasz (Mu Alpha)** got married on September 17, 2016.



## Mu Phi Happenings cont.

Kristin Calhoun (Kappa Class)

got married on March 19th, 2016.



Kayla Lisa got engaged to be married!



Molly Cox (Mu Zeta) and Zach Helms (Mu Theta)

will be performing in Into the Woods as the Baker and the Baker's Wife with Camelot in October!



## Darren Goad—New Radford High School and Dalton Intermediate School Choral Director:

Darren Goad, of the Mu Alpha pledge class, has recently started his new position as choral director at Radford High School (RHS) and Dalton Intermediate School (DIS) here in Radford. As many of us know Lois Castonguay served as choral director at both schools for 30 years; she was an incredibly funny, knowledgeable, and kind individual who will be missed by the entire community. However, if there was anyone who could fill such large shoes it would be Darren Goad! Darren has previously taught music at all levels for six years in Marion, VA. His choirs consistently scored Excellent and Superior ratings at state choral assessments and many of his students were accepted into All-District and All-State Honors choirs. Darren has also served as the Virginia Music Educators Association District 7 Choral Representative and has hosted many honors choir events. After serving his community in Marion for six years and raising the bar of musical excellence for each of his choirs Darren is the perfect choice to succeed Mrs. Castonguay as director for the Radford public school choirs.

When asked why he decided to

take the job here in Radford, despite his growing success with his choirs in Marion, he replied, "I decided to take this position at Radford High School because of how close it is to home and my parents. The opportunity was also too great to pass up. The program is strong, there is lots of community support, and I remembered how great it was to student teach at Radford High School and Dalton Intermediate. I greatly miss Marion and all of my students there, but I was fortunate enough to choose my successor." Originally from Floyd, VA Darren is now less than an hour away from his hometown and is also able to work with his sister, Denise Garrett, every day as she is the accompanist for the Radford school choirs!

Darren says that he was "very excited" when he found out that he had been offered the position. "I was with my assistant principal at Marion Middle and when I got the phone call we both danced and hugged. The hardest part about accepting the job was telling my students. When I told my students I was leaving Marion, they cried so much and were very upset. However, later on they celebrated with

me by throwing surprise parties and showering me gifts at the end of the year."

When asked what his favorite part of the new school and his new choirs is so far Darren says that "it's hard to answer" because he "has a list [of favorite things.] Some of my new favorite things about RHS and DIS are having air conditioning, having an accompanist all day,



getting to stay in one room all day long, and having program boosters." Darren also said that the choirs here in Radford are very similar to the choirs in Marion: "They are strong musically and are extremely talented."

Lastly, we asked Darren what his future plans for the RHS and Dalton Intermediate choirs will be. He says that, "I would love to see the numbers grow and have more students involved in the program. I'm hoping to eventually have an all men's choir as well."

We are extremely proud to see our Alpha Zeta Alumni serving the world of music so successfully and we are excited to see what the future has in store for Darren and the RHS and DIS choirs! If you would like to come support Darren and his choirs, they will be performing in Radford University's Bondurant Auditorium for their Winter and Spring Concert on December 12 and May 16 at 7pm. Way to go Darren!

-Written by Katie Metzler

**Alpha Zeta Chapter--Radford  
University -Alpha Zeta**



Becky Schwab, Alumni Secretary  
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**Reminders and Farewells**

Keep a lookout for information about the Fall Alumni Dinner! It's going to be awesome!

Just a reminder to all alumni! If you know of any MPE alumni that are not on the email list and/or that are not part of the Facebook page PLEASE, PLEASE let me know!!! I really want to make sure that all alumni are as involved as possible! Thank you all for your continual support and active participation!



Phamily Photo Fall 2016!