



# ASHes TO ASHes SUMMER/FALL 2011

NEWSLETTER OF THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP HOUSE ALUMNAE

## Handing Over the Gavel

I, Summer Denius, president, lived in Fechko '09-'10 as an RA. I graduated with a BFA in sculpture and a minor in linguistics. I have finished half of my master's program in middle-childhood education. I currently work as an Art Director for a non-profit organization called Art Safe.

Christine Minch DiSilvestri, vice president, started in the Stadium and then lived in Fechko in '95-'96. She became an RA in Morrill for a year and then moved into Hanley as one of the first ASH RA's in '98-'99. She graduated with a BFA in nursing. She is married with two children and works at the Ross Heart Hospital.

Cassandra Plummer, secretary, works as a Registered Dental Hygienist for a general dentist in the greater Columbus area. She graduated with a BS in Dental Hygiene and a Minor in Sociology. She lived in Hanley '05-'09. Her favorite memories were ASH Thanksgivings. Everyone would help to scrub the house down until it was spotless. The smell of delicious food would fill the house for the afternoon. So many people would come that it was always hard to find enough seating for everyone.

Courtney Hamilton Deck, treasurer, lived on the ASH floor of the stadium 1995, and lived in Fechko '96-'98. She graduated from OSU in 2001 with a BS degree in pharmacy. She lives in Westerville Ohio with her husband Tom. They just had their first baby in June, a beautiful boy. She works at Medco as a pharmacist.

It was with a lot of smiles that we assumed these new roles. The four of us as new officers had fun this year getting to know the

women in the houses. We went over for house dinners, made Valentine's cookies for each woman in the houses and even cooked them dinner each night during spring's final's week.

I remember the first time I walked by Fechko house. I was a freshman and I lived on north campus, so the south side of OSU was by no means my stomping ground. Hidden amongst all of the towering residence halls, tucked away like a hidden treasure, was this beautiful little house. It reminded me of a Disney princess cottage. I wouldn't have been surprised if Snow White had opened the windows and sang out a tune, or if 7 little dwarfs came bustling out the door. Brook Craig, a senior living in the house told me recently that many students knock on the door and ask for tours. Some think it is a library or a nurses' dormitory. "No," Brook tells them, "This is an ASH house."

Four years later I found myself living in Fechko. And it wasn't the only house of its kind. There were Pomerene and Hanley as well. The friendships and the community I found while living there is incomparable. Anyone who has lived in the houses would agree. So it has been my pleasure for this past school year to act as president of this group of wonderful ASH women.



Past President Carol Bakle, Past Treasurer Margaret Goodrich.  
THANKS FOR YOUR MANY YEARS OF SERVICE!



(left to right) President Summer Denius, Secretary Cassandra Plummer,  
Treasurer Courtney Hamilton Deck, Vice President Christine Minch DiSilvestri

This year has been a great one. Some houses have begun a "big sis- little sis" program with mentoring newer women in the house. Some other activities the women have had this past year include visiting COSI, Taste of OSU (a multi-cultural food tasting event in the New Student Union), the ASH Formal (80 in attendance), Christmas house parties, Valentine's decorating parties, rock climbing, ice skating, packing boxes for soldiers  
*(continued on page 2)*

## Handing Over the Gavel *(continued)*

in Afghanistan, craft nights, the extremely successful and fun trip to Chicago, and the fun and farewell of Women of the Year spring event. Many of the women asked me to put a big “thank you” in this newsletter for all that you have contributed so that they could be in ASH.

A goal this year as officers was to make sure the women understood the program they were involved in and the groups that love and support them. We explained differences between the Alumnae Group and the ASH Advisory Board and found that many women didn't even realize there were two separate groups. This realization and encouragement from OSU and OSU Alumni Association, lead to a series of discussions between the ASH Board and the Alumnae Group. As time passed and some great conversations occurred, an idea began to form. What if the groups would unite? We asked some of the residents their thoughts. Most simply asked, “Why not?” Others seemed relieved at the idea of all the women who support them being united together in the effort. Many women got excited and some joked that it would be easier to know who to thank. So more meetings were held between the Board and the Alumnae officers and it was decided that whatever was best for the girls, was best for the groups. A uniting of the two groups

would lead to more support being raised for scholarships. It could cut down on miscommunication and build a strong foundation for the girls in the houses to feel supported. This is a great opportunity. Therefore, it is with great excitement and much anticipated satisfaction that we announce that this coming winter the Alumni Scholarship Housing Society (ASHS) will come to be as both the ASH Board and Alumnae Group unite equally together.

*“I am very excited that the ASH Alumnae group and the ASH Board have decided to unite and form the ASH Society. This new unified group will streamline processes and enhance service to students, thereby, improving the overall ASH Program for today's college women.”* -Alice Schweihofer, Assistant Director of Residence Life

“In 1966 when I walked into my first class at OSU of 300 calculus students I thought I had made a terrible mistake. What were they thinking? There were only 500 students in my entire high school. So when I walked home after class and went up the steps to Mary Pomerene Alumnae Scholarship House where I lived, I knew I had found “home”. I could not have survived my first year at OSU financially, socially, or emotionally without the care and support of the ASH program. The lessons I learned, the

people I met, and the sense of community that the ASH program exudes has inspired me to stay involved after graduation. There were two ways to stay involved through the ASH Alumnae Group or the ASH Advisory Board. The time is right, the time is now for the two groups to unite and become a Society. We both share the same goal: *To promote the advancement of the best interests and continuance of the ASH Program by providing fellowship, scholarships and the furtherance of professional relationships among the alumnae, students, faculty, staff and friends of the ASH. Please support the ASH program by helping us become a Society*”-Carole Paris Bickel, ASH Board Chair

Many hours have gone into this uniting. Most of those hours were dedicated to the creation of the new Society's constitution and bylaws. If anyone is interested in reading these, they can contact Carole Bickel, [cpbickel@yahoo.com](mailto:cpbickel@yahoo.com) 614-866-9420. It is an exciting time for ASH. Classes will start up again for the women on Wednesday, September 21 and their ASH Fall Welcome will be Sunday, October 2. Our ASH Alumnae Fall Homecoming will be Saturday, October 15. Hope to see you there!

In the spirit of ASH,  
Summer Denius

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# Alumnae UPDATES

## 1930's

• *Harshe, Florence* (Original ASH 1935-39) reports that she has lots of tales about the earliest ASH days. One example is that residents “picked” room assignments from a tin wash basin.

## 1940's

• *Osborne, Miriam Mayer* (Original ASH 1943-46) lives in Portland OR and would love to hear from other alums who remember her. She is close to her family and enjoys volunteer work, friends, travel to California and the cultural side of Portland.

• *Shaffer, Kathy Keiter* (M-P 1945-49) Her sentiments are probably those of many of us, so I quote “Spent some wonderful days at the old ASH MP. Still in close touch with former roomies! Happy to see it growing and thriving!”

## 1950's

• *Pappa, Shirley Traxler* (M-P 1950-53) calls Independence OH home. With the graduation of 2 grandchildren currently attending OSU, the number of OSU degrees in the family will reach 14 or 15. GO BUCKEYES!!

• *Texter, Merry* (D-H 1954-1956) reports that she doesn't do a thing these days. JUST caring for a good friend, playing in a band, and serving as secretary of their Home Owner's Association.

• *Maier Deoro, Arlene DeNardo* (D-H 1956-1960) is wondering if there is any news about Elaine Buerkel or Judy Boss?

• *Gault, Ruth Ann Drumbeller* (M-P 1959-1963) lives in Atlanta GA near her 2 granddaughters and youngest son and his wife. She visited with Marilyn Alcott Leymaster and husband Mike when they were Florida-bound. Joanne Bucher Kitchen was another ASH that was fun to talk to. She is interested in visiting with ASH alums in ATL or GA as well as the great ASH house-mates; e-mail is [ruthgault@gmail.com](mailto:ruthgault@gmail.com).

## 1960's

• *Dreher, Cheryl Hulse* (M-P 1965-69) lives in Mansfield OH. In her semi-retirement, she works as Director of Music at her church, and is both Chaplain and Organist for Mansfield Elks Lodge. She also volunteers at several theaters and substitute teaches. Husband Tom is retired and now practices his fishing skills.

• *Lee, Mary Michaelson* (M-P 1963-67) lives in Daniels WV and had a most educational and exciting spring break. They took their 12 year old granddaughter to Greece to visit her “roots”. They were on a side trip to Paris when the Iceland volcano erupted, giving them an extra week to enjoy Paris.

*Thanks to all of you for sending in the above responses to the ASHes to ASHes 2010 newsletter. Many thanks to Ruth Ann Drumbeller Gault [[ruthgault@gmail.com](mailto:ruthgault@gmail.com)] for compiling this report.*

# UPCOMING EVENTS & HIGHLIGHTS *By Carol Bakle*

“Our Annual Fall ASH Homecoming will be 11:30am, Saturday, Oct. 22 at our ASH Fechko House, West 220 11th Avenue. This is a fun, potluck luncheon followed by our business meeting. Our recently elected officers will be there to greet you. We suggest you park in the High Street garage adjacent to the newly built OSU Student Union. The football game is in Illinois that Saturday.

Since the ASH residents have reinstated the “big/little sis” program, let’s see how many of you can hook up with and bring your “sis” to the meeting! Let’s have some fun with our sis’s! ASHes from both groups and staff members of the university who worked on the Society’s Constitution and Bylaws will be in

attendance. With no dues increases for more than 20+ years, we suggested an increase from \$10 to \$25 a year. Enclosed is a list of new positions and openings & volunteer opportunities. Please mail in your ideas, aspirations and willingness to serve, or bring them to the meeting! As we go to press, we are anxiously awaiting the final approval of the constitution & bylaws by The OSU Alumni Association Board of Trustees at their February meeting!

Your ASH donations are so appreciated. College costs are soaring beyond \$10,000 a year. ASH Scholarships are only able to help with 50% of that expense which goes toward Room & Board! ASH is still the least expensive housing on campus.



Women of the Year 2011 & Scholarship Recipients



Christmas 2010



Chicago Trip 2011

## “Society Unite” Committee

Carol Benasky Bakle, Carole Paris Bickel, Summer Denius, Courtney Hamilton Deck, Elaine Drstvenssek Edgar, Christine Minch DiSilvestri, Tammy Torbet Passa, Cassandra Plummer, Nancy Vosler Smith, Pam Pozderac Hager, Brenda Toler, Dottie Lee Wilker, Joanne Buchar Kitchen, Paula Marrie, Craig Little, Erin Kopp, Alice Schwehofer, Angela Stenson King.

## Stay In Touch & Informed

- Keep up with ASH Alumnae on Facebook: click ‘groups’ on your home page & add ‘ASH’
- Learn more about OSU ASH Housing- [www.housing.osu.edu](http://www.housing.osu.edu), Click on Learning Communities; Cooperative Scholarship Housing; Alumnae Scholarship Housing
- Follow us as an ASH Society on [www.ohiostatealumni.org](http://www.ohiostatealumni.org)

## ASH Funds and Account Numbers

Hosford Fund # 203298; Speer Fund # 206855; ASH Residents Fund # 240132; Fechko Fund # 242158; Stephenson Fund # 206956; Conn Fund #201423; Cole Graduate #241367; Anniversary Fund #200228; Heskett Fund # 263162; Lucy-Lelia #204352; Lewis Fund #204163; Failer Fund #202116; Jones Fund # 203479; ASH Current Use #305032

## How Can You Help? *By Carole Paris Bickel*

“Did you know that the ASH Advisory Board awards a minimum of 6 full ASH housing scholarships each year? For the school year 2011-2012 we were able to award 11 full ASH housing scholarships with a value of \$5,214 each!! As a former ASH resident, you can understand what a great assistance this was for the 11 recipients. This money comes from the Hosford Fund (Fund No 203298). It is one of several endowed funds that are currently used to provide scholarships for the women of the ASH program.

Currently the Hosford Fund generates approximately \$39,000 each year. Our projections show that by the year 2020, with the cost of inflation and rate of return, we may struggle to continue this tradition. Currently this fund has a balance of approximately \$800,000. Our goal is to grow this fund to \$1,000,000!

ANY contribution can help us reach this goal...we are 80% there!! So please take the time right now and write a check to one of the funds that help contribute to scholarships for the women of the ASH Program...remember what the program meant to you...”Pay It Forward”.



The Ohio State University  
Alumni Association, Inc.  
Longaberger Alumni House  
2200 Olentangy River Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43210-1035

**WWW.GIVETO.OSU.EDU FOR EASY ONLINE GIVING TO ASH!**

# ASH Alumnae - Dues/Donations/Information Update 2011

**DUES:** Enclosed are my 2011-12 dues: \$25 \_\_\_\_\_  
Free (1<sup>st</sup> year after grad)  
(Make check payable to: "Scholarship House Alumnae")

**DONATION:** Enclosed is my tax-deductable donation: \_\_\_\_\_  
(\$100, \$50, \$25, Other: Fund Name \_\_\_\_\_ Fund # \_\_\_\_\_)  
(Make check payable to: "The Ohio State University Foundation")

Name (including maiden) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!**

Please check if you are interested in participating in any of the following and send them to Courtney Deck.

*Executive Officers - Two Year Terms:*

- President
- President Elect
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Board of Governors (up to 7 members at large)

*Committee Member or Committee Chair*

- Meeting & Programs
- Membership
- Advancement (fundraising)
- Nominating
- Public Relations
- Finance

*ASH Residents' Activity*

- Attending dinner at an ASH residence
- Mentoring
- Community service project with ASH residents
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

\*Designate your gift by writing the ASH Fund number on your check's memo line. Refer to list of "Funds" in this newsletter. Send your checks for dues and donations AND your volunteering choices to: **ASH Alumnae Treasurer: Courtney Hamilton Deck, 384 Windemere Dr., Westerville, OH 43082**