

The Phi Psi Rag

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS



Mentoring Program Connects Alumni to Undergraduates Kansas Alpha Needs Your Help to Remain Competitive at KU

This spring, like every spring, a new class of seniors will complete their finals and head out into the business world. Many already have their eyes focused on a particular career path to help better the world. These young men have earned the right to advance into our alumni ranks while understanding the tradition of Brotherhood. We wholeheartedly welcome them as Brothers in good standing in one of the oldest fraternal organizations in the country. In order to assist in their decision-making processes, our House Corporation has developed an alumni-mentoring program that allows alumni of different businesses to meet monthly with a small group of underclassmen for lunch or dinner to discuss opportunities in the business world and answer questions. Alumni who have participated in this program find the results incredibly rewarding for both sides. If you would like to be a part of this program, please contact House Corporation President **Nick Reddell '00** at nickreddell@gmail.com.

Just as the seniors are preparing for their next adventure, we have a class of new members who are finishing their first year away from home. Our recruitment chairmen strive to attract the best candidates who will carry on the Phi Psi tradition and make us proud to call them Brothers. The Chapter provides the foundation in which these underclassmen can be academically successful. It takes the continued support of volunteers to mold these fine young men in just four years. Their high rank in grades among the other Greek chapters is a testament to their success. Your Endowment Association honors those who achieve the highest grade levels with academic scholarships. Without the generous donations from you, our alumni, this would not be the case. Speaking for the many students who have received scholarship checks through the years, I thank you!

I mentioned in my last letter that we are taking steps to update certain portions of the Chapter House that have become tired and stale by today's measure. Our competition, the university itself and other Greek houses, have moved forward with some aggressive buildups and interior modifications in order to attract the best incoming freshmen. Phi Psi does not wish to lag behind. We constantly need your help to maintain the high-level living standards of one of the top three largest fraternity houses in the country. My thanks go out to all who responded to my last request. It does make a difference!

If you get to campus for a football or basketball game later this year, please make the time to visit Phi Psi. You will be most welcomed into your Chapter House. High, High, High...

In the Bond,
Greg Smith '69
gasmith@kc.rr.com / (913) 488-6534



Two weeks into the fall semester, a pipe collapsed on the north side of the Chapter House, forcing that side of the facility to be shut down.

House Corporation Looks Ahead After Pipe Collapses Mom Wolfe Announces Retirement

This past summer, we had a relatively easy time of putting the Chapter House back in order for the fall semester. The undergraduates did an excellent job of making sure it was clean and orderly before they left at the end of the spring semester. Everything was going well.

That suddenly changed about two weeks into the fall semester. A pipe that carried waste from the north side of the Chapter House collapsed, and all of the north side of the facility, including the kitchen, had to be shut down. After a couple of days, the source of the problem was located. It was five feet down below the dining room. A three-foot wide, six-foot deep trench had to be dug in the dining room.

Because of this, Brothers were forced to eat outside of the Chapter House for about a week. The university was very helpful in assistance with the food. But more importantly, the entire floor, ceiling, walls, etc., either had to be cleaned or replaced.

The entire project took more than 30 days to resolve with the Brothers finally eating in the library in shifts.

The entire loss was about \$75,000 in total, and a large majority of that expense was covered by the insurance on the house, so we were fortunate there.

(Continued on page 2)



After 30 days of fixing a collapsed pipe, Brothers were able to eat together again in the dining room.

House Corporation Looks Ahead

(Continued from page 1)

The carpet has been replaced with a product that is used in sporting facilities that is durable and easy to clean. The look of the room is considerably different.

However, this does point out that some of the bones of the Chapter House are getting older, and we need to begin making plans to start some serious renovations before long. The last renovation (crossover) was completed in 1994, 22 years ago. Since that time, there have been in excess of 900 undergraduates living in the facility, which is starting to show its age. Many of our contemporaries are or have recently completed multi-million dollar renovations. We need to be thinking ahead.

On a sad note, Esther Wolfe, our house director since April 1997, advised us that she will retire on June 1, 2016. Mom Wolfe has been a tremendous asset to the Chapter and will be missed. But we wish her nothing but the best. More on this will follow at a later date.

Make plans to join us at this year's Founders Day celebration. After seeing a successful turnout in 2015, the Wheat State Alumni Association will again host a brunch on February 28, 2016, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Kansas Alpha Chapter House. Please have checks turned in to **Adam Dolski '03** by February 21. Make checks payable to Wheat State Alumni Association and send to: Adam Dolski, 5942 Buena Vista St., Fairway, KS 66205. Brunch is \$20 per person, and we also welcome alumni dues of \$10. We look forward to seeing you on February 28!

In the Bond,

John J. Ziegelmeyer Jr. '70

House Corporation, Vice President Facilities
jjzieg@sunflower.com

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THANK YOU, LOYAL ALUMNI

Your commitment to Kansas Alpha helps maintain our Chapter House and provides a premier facility for our undergraduate Brothers. Thank you—your assistance is vital to our success!

Alumni who gave during 2015 are listed by initiation year under their appropriate giving levels. If an error has been made in recording your gift, or your name has been mistakenly omitted or improperly listed, we sincerely apologize. Please let us know by sending corrections to the Kansas Alpha Endowment Association, Phi Kappa Psi, P.O. Box 7028, Shawnee Mission, KS 66207.

Jefferson

(\$1,000 and above)

Gregory A. Smith '69
Randall S. Treas '83

Mike Lewis '66

Philip H. Watkins Jr. '66

Ira J. Jackson Jr. '72

John R. Shaner '73

Michael R. Gunter '76

Robert L. Bennett Jr. '79

David B. Dunmire '79

John H. Miller '79

Paul J. Tremonti '81

Gordon W. Reynolds '84

Kelly L. Hanson '86

Jeffrey G. Maher '87

Jonathan P. Shelton '95

Nicholas M. Reddell '00

In the Bond

(\$500 to \$999)

Join Us!

Loyalty

(\$100 to \$499)

David N. Grimes '47
Richard D. Mercer '50
Damon G. Simpson '50
Robert D. Hovey '51
Fred A. Dunmire '52
Robert C. Anderson '53
Cornelius Boersma III '57
Patrick J. Maloney '60
Hon. Lawrence E. Sheppard '60
Michael S. Johnson '61
Robert L. Garrett '64
Robert L. Gruber '64
John R. Reed '65
G. Thomas Spink Jr. '65

Lamplighter

(Up to \$99)

Marshall P. Fryar '45
William C. Bolin Sr. '46
Stuart A. Smith, M.D. '57
Donald E. Snoddy '65
Jack D. Kline '68
Steven T. Osborn '82
Robert J. Boresow '89

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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Dan Zima '13

danzima2@gmail.com

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Jacob Ferris '15

Recruitment Chairmen

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Parker Collins '15

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Nathan Guthrie '15

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Ben Burch '15

Matt Hagge '15

Carson Jones '15

Social Chairmen

Joe Forlenza '15

Charlie Greene '15

Jesse Wilkins '15

Alumni Relations Chairman

Daniel Schwin '15

Community Service Chairman

Nick Love '15

House Manager

Cord Trees '13

New Member Educator

Jacob Wittenbrook '13



Alumni, help the undergraduates build a professional database! Send your initiation year, company, title, e-mail, and cell phone number to danzima2@gmail.com.

Kansas Alpha welcomed 31 new members.



The 2014 and 2015 pledge classes helped renovate St. Nicholas Orthodox Church.



Dan Zima '13 and Jake Vance '13 with their dates the annual Christmas buffet social event.



Jake Gustafson '13, Palmer Harrison '13, and Jacob Wittenbrook '13 snowboard in Steamboat Springs, Colo., on the annual KU Greek life ski trip.

UNDERGRADUATES WORK TO BUILD ALUMNI DATABASE

Kansas Alpha Welcomes 31 New Members, Raises More Than \$500 for the Michael J. Fox Foundation

During the fall semester, Brothers continued to improve academically. The Chapter GPA increased from 3.13 to 3.17, with nine Brothers boasting a 4.0 semester GPA. In addition, we hosted a No Shave November philanthropy event within the Chapter. With a \$10 minimum buy-in, the Brothers raised more than \$500 for the Michael J. Fox Foundation with the hope to further Parkinson's research. Our inspiration for choosing to support this cause stemmed from the fact that our housemother, Esther Wolfe, has been battling Parkinson's disease for more than five years. We are proud to contribute to a cause in honor of our loving Mom Wolfe.

On January 20, we initiated the 2016 pledge class of 31 new members in the front room of the Chapter House. We are excited to add these young men into the Brotherhood. We applaud New Member Educator **Jacob Wittenbrook '13** for instilling the values of Phi Psi into these young men.

As our recruitment team prepares for its busiest part of the year, any alumni recommendations will be greatly considered and appreciated. Our recruitment chairmen, **Parker Collins '15**, **Will Belliel '15**, and **Nathan Guthrie '15**, have their eyes on about 30 potential new members, and that number is expected to significantly increase during the first month of the spring semester.

The goal is to sign 35-40 young men that fit the Kansas Alpha profile. Any input can be directly e-mailed to me.

My biggest goal for the spring semester is to create an alumni database that will serve to better the networking of active Brothers and alumni. This will allow active Brothers to have an advantage and reach out when they are searching for internships and jobs during their sophomore, junior, and senior years. As I work with Alumni Relations Chairman **Daniel Schwin '15**, we hope to have 400 Brothers in an Excel file by the end of the semester with their name, initiation year, company, title, e-mail, and cell phone number. We are working on getting a link set up for that on our website, but until then please e-mail me if you're willing to contribute.

If you're ever in the area, feel free to stop by to look around the Chapter House or to have lunch or dinner with some of the Brothers. We always look forward to getting to know our alumni.



Fraternally,
Dan Zima '13
Chapter President
danzima2@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE



Join your Phi Psi Brothers at this year's Kansas Alpha Reunion Cup Golf Tournament on Saturday, July 23 at Prairie Highlands Golf Course in Olathe at 8 a.m. RSVP to **Jeff Maher '87** at jeffmaher@aol.com or (913) 530-8498. Make checks payable to Wheat State Alumni Association and mail to Adam Dolski, 5942 Buena Vista, Fairway, KS 66205. Stay tuned for more details!

Connect with Us Online



www.wheatstatealumni.com



Kansas Alpha Phi Kappa Psi Alumni



Phi Kappa Psi, University of Kansas



@PhiPsiKansas



Patrick Delaney '13 and Tyler Stanley '13 with their dates at the annual Castaway social event.

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CHAPTER UPDATE

Chapter Eternal

Thomas I. McIntire '59 entered Chapter Eternal on August 7, 2015, at the age of 75. He enjoyed his work, and his life was centered on his family. Tom was an avid runner, enjoyed the Lake of the Ozarks, KU basketball, and loved his wife's fruit pies. He was an active member and volunteer at the Village Presbyterian Church in Overland Park.

Alumni News

Alan Gribben '61 is the editor of *Mark Twain Journal*. E-mail: agribben@aum.edu

Jeffrey E. Jackson '70 spends nine months a year in Florida. He and his wife, Heidi, love it. If any Brothers are in the area, e-mail or call Jeff at jjackson112@aol.com or (402) 660-7538.

Alan R. Reeves, M.D. '90 threw out the first pitch at the Royals vs. Yankees game on May 5, 2015, due to his role as an acute stroke care physician at KU Med. He performs endovascular neurosurgery and removes clots from the brain that cause acute strokes. Alan reports that the Royals won 12-1 that game. Alan lives in Lenexa with his wife, Cheryl, and their three children. E-mail: jhawk9397@yahoo.com

Cary S. Smalley '98 practices solo law in Overland Park. He would be happy to help any brothers with their legal needs, including estate planning, business formation and contracts, trademarks, tickets, and car accidents. E-mail: csmalley@hotmail.com