

OFFICERS

Alumni President
Ed Gorkes '79
(215) 619-7901

Chapter Executive Committee

GM
Mike Vough
mike.vough@gmail.com

GP
Luke Kozaczki
ljk191@psu.edu

GMC
Matt Moffitt
mdm5290@psu.edu

GT
Andrew Ehrlickman
ame192@psu.edu

GS
Ryan Morgan
rwm5093@psu.edu

IN MEMORY

Dick Allio '52
Joseph Simone '53
William Burhman III '70

ON THE WEB

How to Log In to Our Web Site

Get a username and password for our alumni web site to have full access to the page.

It's easy!

- Go to www.kappasigpsu.com.
- Click on First Time Login.
- Enter your last name.
- Select your Record.
- Enter your Member ID. (You can find this printed above your name and address on this newsletter).

Alpha-Delta News



— www.kappasigpsu.com —

A PUBLICATION OF THE KAPPA SIGMA FRATERNITY

AT THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

— November 2010 —

ALUMNI REPORT

Staying Connected with Kappa Sig in Our Alumni Years

By Ed Gorkes '79; egorkes@gmail.com

Looking back on my college years, I can wholeheartedly say that Kappa Sigma played a significant part of my life. I'm happy to say that the fraternity experience did not just last for my four years at Penn State, but continues to be a part of my life today.

In this issue of *Alpha-Delta News* you'll read the stories of how Kappa Sig continues to influence the lives of other alumni too. Some still fondly recall the best memories from their fraternity days. Others rekindle their bonds in their adult years by planning reunions with brothers from their era. I especially hope you enjoy the profile on **Wes Link '55**, who is a legend among our fraternity brothers. Wes is a

true example of a loyal Kappa Sig.

I encourage you to renew your participation in your alumni years too. It's easy to do. Share a story, update or photo for publication in our next newsletter. Register on our web site and update your email address so we can stay connected with you. And most importantly, make a gift to the annual fund to ensure that we can continue to keep you in touch with Kappa Sig and the friends you met there.

Feel free to contact me at any time with questions or for ways you can get involved. I'm looking forward to staying connected with you in our alumni years.

CHAPTER REPORT

Alpha Delta Continues on the Path of Excellence

Brothers Bring Prominence to Kappa Sigma with Recent Achievements

By Mike Vough

The Alpha Delta chapter got the semester off to a fast start with a great Rush program. Headed up by our Grand Master of Ceremonies **Matt Moffitt** and Rush Chairman **Craig Soden**, the chapter held multiple events such as a Poker Night, BBQ, tailgates, Formal Dinner and a Basketball Tournament. The chapter handed out over 20 bids. Fifteen gentlemen accepted.

The Alpha Delta Chapter has also shown prowess on the athletic field. The chapter had strong, above average seasons in Football, Swimming, and Softball. The Chapter didn't stop there capturing the 5K Cross Country title and finishing third in Golf. Alpha Delta is currently in second place in the IM standings.

The chapter has recently begun fundraising for THON. In October, brothers went to Wilkes Barre, Baltimore, Schuylkill Haven and the Jersey Shore for canning, raising \$12,000. In one weekend, we have managed to already



(Continued on Page 2)

REMEMBER WHEN?

The Story of "John Deers"

Thank you to **Ed Schmidt '61** for submitting this funny memory from his fraternity days...

My funniest memory is when one of the brothers, first name Bill, was driving back to Kappa Sig after vacation and saw two dead deer along the side of the road. He of course stops and loads them into his car. The next morning the brothers entering the second and third floor heads of the old house find two deer sitting up on the johns doing their business.

Share **YOUR** best memories from your Kappa Sig days on the message board at www.kappasigpsu.com.

CHAPTER REPORT

Continued from page 1

beat our total from last year of \$9,000. The Thon committee has been putting in countless hours to make this year a special year. We were recently paired with the Tafel family and are looking to cultivate a strong relationship with the Tafels in the future.

Alpha Delta is participating in Greek Sing this year with Delta Gamma and Alpha Tau Omega. Our Triad is currently in first place after many preliminary events including the Kickoff Party and Spirit Week. The brothers of Alpha Delta celebrated Veterans Day with a Quarter Bounce on College Avenue to raise money for the Fisher House. The brothers raised over 200 dollars. Alpha Delta is continuing to grow and develop into a premier fraternity on campus.

ALUMNI Q&A

Kappa Sigma has Made an Impact

Thank you to **JC Cover '63** for participating in this Q&A...

What is your funniest memory from your Kappa Sig days?

Selecting the funniest memory was the toughest, as there are so many, but the best is probably the "race." We had instituted a fine for any brother who damages the "fraternal image." Having been part of that process, early in my senior year on a Friday night after the traditional spaghetti and beer dinner, **Marv Bunch '63** and I decided to have a race between my TR3 and his "Bugeye" Sprite. Problem was, we used the new and yet unpaved parking lot

of the new fraternity house! Cost me \$25!

How have you kept your Kappa Sig connections to brothers in your alumni years?

The computer/email has been great for keeping in touch with brothers through the years.

What is the one memory that you will share/have shared with your children and grandchildren?

The memory I treasure most is the weekend we dedicated the new fraternity house on Beaver Ave. On hand were some of the finest alumni brothers I have ever

known and especially "Al Rockwell," one of Alpha Delta's most prominent citizens.

What about your membership in Alpha-Delta Chapter makes you the most proud?

I am most proud of the impact Kappa Sigma life made on the lives of the many friends and brothers I had the privilege of living, working and growing with. I credit lessons learned there for a lot of what I feel were successes later in life.

Reconnect with John! Email him at jnel2@tampabay.rr.com.

ALUMNI UPDATES

'70s

James Garcia '79

(785 Greenhaven Dr., Bethel Park, PA 15102; jpuck33@comcast.net) I'm now working for Stifel Nicolaus in Bethel Park, PA as VP/Investments. Had to make a move after Citi tanked and sold us to Morgan Stanley. There was no way I could work for the MS crew after 30 years of making my own calls. If you need any help, want another point of view or just a new set of eyes on your portfolio, call me at 412-854-7500.

My son Ben just finished his freshman year at PSU. Oldest daughter Kelley going for Phd. and middle girl Allie a junior at Point Park in Pittsburgh next year in Dance. Sue is still putting up with me (31 years - she is a saint). We need to bug GAK so he'll buy a new chapter house.

What's New with You?

Submit your updates for publication in our next newsletter! You can email your stories and photos to content@affinityconnection.com (mention Kappa Sig PSU) or upload them at www.kappasigpsu.com.

Ideas include:

- News of weddings, babies, career highlights, etc.
- Memories of your Kappa Sig days
- The best fraternity photos from your era
- Stories and pictures of a recent reunion

A Lifetime of Bonds in the Kappa Sigma Brotherhood

Wes Link '55 was approached by Kappa Sig in 1953, who encouraged him to join the fraternity. He had been living in downtown State College and was taken to the house and introduced to the brothers.

"I became a brother in spring of '54," Wes said. "There are so many things that happened when I was an active brother. We had Hell Week back then, which was a whole different experience then it is today. But I learned a lot of things – to get along with a wide range of guys and to be a neater person. It helped get me ready for going into the Army and going to Korea after I graduated."

Wes describes his time with the fraternity as "something he really enjoyed" that affected every other part of his life. During his time with Kappa Sig in his senior year spring session he met his wife to be, Barbara Van Matre, who was a Tri Sigma sister

"I enlisted in the Army in 1956," he said. "I was discharged from the Army and scheduled to arrive in the U.S. on August 20, 1958. Our plan was to be married on August 22. Unfortunately, there was a flare up in Lebanon on the trip back and they kept us an extra 36 hours. I made it back just in time and we did get married."

Wes and Barbara have now been married for 52 years. He also met the friends that would stay with him through his life. Wes spent the next 14 years focused on having children and raising his family. Finally, in 1972 he obtained season tickets for Penn State football. He found a retired professor's



Wes Link '55 at a recent tailgate.

house to rent on McCormick Street. Since then he has missed just three games in over 30 years.

"I continually think how fortunate I am," Wes said. "There are so many little details, I could write a book if I had kept good notes. The things of main importance are the people and relationships that you develop during those years and as I've maintained them, through my entire life."

Wes commented on how lucky he feels to be able to visit with the Kappa Sig brothers whenever he's in town.

"I have lots of friends mostly from years 1972 to the present," Wes said. "At one time I kept a 3x5 file of index cards with peoples' names in it and it had over 375 names. I used to try to bone up on the names before I went to visit. Now, I probably know as many brothers active and inactive as anyone in the fraternity, though not necessarily by name anymore. However, I still have several Kappas of my era who I'm in contact with on a weekly and monthly basis."

When asked what's changed with Kappa Sigma since his time there, Wes cited the current status of the fraternity being in between houses.

"Even though we don't have a house, the relationships hold strong," Wes said. "Kappa Sig isn't about a house – I've been with the fraternity through two houses. It's about the relationships and you can hold onto those through your whole life."

Wes recalled on a recent Saturday night after a football game about 20 brothers that lived in one location got together with seven alumni and had a party following the game.

"We always tailgate in the same location so that regular gathering forms a bond between alumni and the current brothers who are doing a wonderful job keeping the fraternity on track, as is Ed Gorkes, the current Alumni Chairman," Wes said. "But beyond games and tailgating we can play important roles in one another's lives."

Wes cited one fraternity brother who is having significant health issues and is being taken care of by his daughter. Wes helped to keep his spirits high by sending him weekly care packages of Penn State memorabilia, such as blue and white objects and magazine articles pertaining to sports the teams.



Brother Link

When asked what advice he would give active brothers, Wes stressed the need to keep connections with the friends they've made through Kappa Sig.

"Do not just take off. Keep the relationships," Wes said. "Even if you are living at a distance, you can keep some kind of connection through reading a newsletter or calling your friends from the pledge class."

He had the same message for alumni.

"Stay in contact. If you can't get back into the area, then at least call up and try to find out what's going on," Wes said. "And if you can, try to help out financially – you have to have funds to maintain current costs of operating it would be nice to have more fellas pitching in."

Wes has supported the fraternity financially and with service through his many years as an alumnus. He served as a member of the alumni board for several years and became chairman for the 100-year centennial in 1992.

"I feel I owe a lot to Kappa Sigma – my experiences which started at Penn State and with Kappa Sigma lead to my marriage, my two daughters, and my five grand kids. The fraternity, the experiences, and the friendship have played a major role in my life and I'll never forget it."

Reconnect with Wes at lecocelo@aol.com.

2010-11 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

President's Club (\$1,001-\$2,500)

Thomas C. Hilbert 1963

Founders Club (\$501- \$1,000)

Kevin T. Coppins 1992

Add Your Name to the List

Put your name on the Honor Roll in 2010-11! The annual fund supports our yearly operating budget.

There are three ways to donate:

- Online at www.kappasigpsu.com.
- Call 800-975-6699.
- Mail a check payable to "PA Alpha-Delta Association" to the return address on this newsletter.

Thank you for your support!

Star & Crescent Club (\$251-\$500)

R. Brad Lawrence 1969

Robert W. Hampton Jr. 1973

Kim T. Chapman 1977

Leland Thaete 1979

Mark L. Rippy 1981

Michael S. DeNapoli 1986

Crest Club (\$101 - \$250)

Joseph N. Succop II 1948

James F. Mayer 1950

Gordon Olsen 1951

James E. Lovett Jr. 1952

R. Dean Madden 1963

Thomas C. McNulty 1968

James P. Charles 1972

David J. Guerin Jr. 1972

John E. Wray Jr. 1973

James H. Leax Jr. 1974

Donald H. Carretta 1975

Eric P. Anderson 1984

Eric D. Easton Jr. 1998

Blue & White Club (\$51-\$100)

Joseph W. Lindsay 1951

H. Wesley Link 1955

George F. Luse II 1955

John T. Rogers 1963

Anthony Gasbarro 1971

Jim G. Lang Jr. 1972

Christopher T. Power 1972

Michael A. Demoise 1974

Thomas A. Nyquist 1977

Clinton L. Burks 1993

Marc A. Beard 1999

Robert A. Lesko 2004

Supporting Club (\$1-\$50)

Theodore A. Lesko 1940

Henry Lozar 1952

Larry H. Mack 1958

James A. Ball 1965

Gary W. Link 1972

Bill S. Vitori 1973

Richard J. Miller 1977

Jeffrey Lawrence Reymos 1991

Ali Seena Soheilian 2009

ON THE WEB

Send Us Your Email Address!

By updating your email address with Alpha-Delta, you'll get much more than just our monthly eLetter communications.

Other benefits include:

- You'll be reminded when we're about to publish a newsletter, so you can submit your news, photos and stories

- Your email address will be available to other alumni in our (password protected) online directory
- You'll help the alumni association save money on paper, printing and postage (and be utilized for other things!)
- You'll be the first to know of the latest news, updates and event details from the alumni and active chapters

As a reminder, our database is used solely for Kappa Sig communications. Update your email address online at www.kappasigpsu.com, or send it to feedback@affinityconnection.com (mention Kappa Sig at Penn State).

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Love Old Photos?

So do we! That's why we need your help to preserve the best Kappa Sig moments that have been captured on film.

Send the best pictures from your era to content@affinityconnection.com (mention Kappa Sig PSU). We'll feature the best submissions in future publications.

In this photo: The Alpha Delta Chapter in 1953.
From the LaVie.

