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Alpha-Delta News

— www.kappasigpsu.com —

A PUBLICATION OF THE KAPPA SIGMA FRATERNITY

AT THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

— April 2014 —



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

We Want You Back for Blue-White Weekend 2014

By Ed Gorkes, President of Alpha-Delta of Kappa Sigma

Aren't you the least bit curious? It is Coach James Franklin's Happy Valley debut. And, we have moved into a new house which has attracted an impressive group of spring pledges. Lastly, your fellow Kappa Sig alumni have been up to some interesting things in the last year ... job changes/advancements, new babies and children with outstanding accomplishments, fascinating vacations and a few successes on the golf course (we won't inflate that too much).

Please plan to join us for Blue-White Weekend, April 11-13, so you can put your curiosities to rest (and share your own big fish stories). As always, we will be holding events throughout the

weekend. We formally invite you to come out and meet some of the newly initiated brothers as well as reconnect with some of the older undergraduates. Below is the agenda for the weekend's events.

If you have any additional questions, please contact the Alumni Relations Chairman, Brother Steven Koniuk, skoniuk2011@gmail.com or (914) 874-3421.

Blue-White Weekend Schedule of Events

(232 E. Nittany Ave., State College, PA 16801)

Friday, April 11, 3:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Stop by the house to see all the old memorabilia, awards and pictures. They will be displayed throughout the common areas of the house.

Saturday, April 12, 9:30 a.m. - Kickoff

Come by the house before the game for a tailgate. Food and beverages provided.

Saturday, April 12, 1:30 p.m.

Blue-White game kickoff.

SPRING RUSH UPDATE

Alpha-Delta Welcomes 11 New Pledges

New House Pays Dividends in Membership Numbers

By Blake Mason, Grand Master, Alpha-Delta Chapter of Kappa Sigma

This was a great spring rush season for Alpha-Delta. With 16 seniors graduating this semester, it was imperative we have a solid rush class.

More than 20 guys came through the house to meet the brothers on Zone Day, a telltale sign that our new location is paying dividends. A local bowling night in State College also helped to garner the interest of a few extra

potentials.

We are pleased to announce that we have issued bids to 11 new pledges, and we welcome them to the halls of 232 W. Nittany Ave. Please watch for more information on our

Go to page 4 for an article about the future of Greek pledging ...

UPCOMING EVENTS

Blue-White Weekend

April 11-13, 2014

Penn State Alumni Weekend

(Class of 1964 and earlier)

June 5-8, 2014

Central PA Arts Festival

July 10-13, 2014

PSU vs. Akron

September 6, 2014

Penn State Homecoming

September 26-28, 2014

CHAPTER OFFICERS

Grand Master

Blake Mason
Manchester, N.J.
Accounting/Finance

Grand Procurator

Sam Kresky
Fairport, N.Y.
Industrial Engineering

Grand Master of Ceremonies

Nicholas Vough
Scranton, Pa.
Business Administration

Grand Scribe

Mikchael Rokosny
Pottstown, Pa.
Civil Engineering

Grand Treasurer

Alex Hardison
State College, Pa.
Supply Chain Management/
Economics

THON 2014

Kappa Sig Brings in \$78,771 FOR THE KIDS Chapter and Gamma Gamma Sigma Celebrate Record-Breaking THON

It is a scene like none other. For those of you who have been part of THONs past, you know.

Where else can you go to experience the energy of a truly altruistic group of college students — complete with water pistols, balloons, games, plungers, hula hoops, crazy socks, line dances, pep rallies, inspirational speeches from some of Penn State's most notable personalities, incredibly choreographed performances and 46 hours of no sleep?

And it is all ... FOR THE KIDS ... to continue Penn State's 37-year tradition of saving children from the grip of pediatric cancer.

Thanks to our chapter's yearlong canning and fundraising efforts with Gamma Sigma Sigma, we contributed \$78,771.47 toward Penn State's \$13,343.517.33 total that will be



Kappa Sig dancers warm up on the floor of the Bryce Jordan Center before THON.

given to the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital.

On Saturday afternoon, Jay Paterno — former assistant football coach and son of Joe Paterno — paid a visit to the THON dancers. He summarized the impact of pediatric cancer in a very powerful way. "A couple of weeks ago, I was in Hershey and toured the children's hospital. The woman who runs the Four Diamonds Fund was asked what the survival rate was. She said, 'We save four out of every five children here.' I couldn't bear to be without one of my five kids. Think about that. That is why you are here ... because we are going to make it five out of every five ... Every year you do this, we are knocking at the door a little more and a little more. In the very near future, Penn State students are going to kick in that damn door."

As the crowd erupted in screams and applause, parents could be seen holding tightly to those THON children who have embraced the hearts of our Greek community at Penn State. It is the power of hope ... hope for one more day, week, month or year ... that our chapter is helping to give to families across

the state. We are fortunate to be part of such a life-giving effort at Penn State that does, in fact, redefine the possibilities.

Also speaking to the dancers was Penn State's newly appointed football coach, James Franklin. "Everybody thinks that what makes



The Kappa Sigma family cheers from the stands of the Bryce Jordan Center.

us special is the football stadium or the basketball arena. That has nothing to do with what makes us special. What makes us special is the people ... the people that understand we are part of something greater than just ourselves. We can make a difference in people's lives."

So, thank you to our dancers, brothers who stood by the dancers, captains, parents who attended, alumni who stopped by and to the entire THON organization for its incredible support. This is why ... WE ARE.

ALUMNI UPDATE

Former Alumni President Shares Thoughts After Heartbreaking 2013 Wes Link '55 Reflects on the Loss of His Wife, PSU Football and His New Man Cave

According to **Wes Link '55**, 2013 was not his favorite year. While it was a productive year for business, he lost his wife of 55 years. "Barbara was a Kappa Sig Sweetheart," he explains. "I met her at the house. This has been a tough year. You just don't realize everything you have to handle when your spouse passes away. Barbara was a school teacher, but she took care of a lot of things at home. I have great respect for all that she did now that I have to do it myself."

A manufacturer's rep providing specialty values to the Air Force and Navy for aerospace application, Wes has continued to manage a successful business over the past several years. In the past six weeks alone, he has had requests for over 1,400

quotes due to new products required by the military. "I used to work 14 or 16 hours a day," he admits. "Just recently, I retired half of my business. I already feel the stress lowering."

One bright spot in 2013 was PSU football. Having missed only three home football games since 1972, Wes was determined to keep his trend going. "While health issues make it impossible for me to see every game," he says, "I am at every tailgate without fail. Fortunately, the brothers who tailgate next to me have a 42-inch HD TV, so I don't miss a thing. I often see brothers from the '60s at games. And, due to our successful centennial celebration, I have become good friends with some from the '90s."

This Jackson Man and regular alumni contributor also has a renovated home to enjoy. "When we lost Barbara, my daughters were so helpful. I could not have made it through without them. They even helped me convert the home into a man cave, which I am enjoying."

When asked about his life with Kappa Sig, Wes had this to say: "A few years ago, I was asked to comment on what Kappa Sig means to me. My answer hasn't changed. I met my wife at Kappa Sig, and from that relationship I have my children and grandchildren. I owe my whole life to Kappa Sig."

Brothers can e-mail Wes at lecoceo@aol.com.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Oh, the Places They Will Go

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself in any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. You are the guy who'll decide where you go."

With these words from Dr. Seuss, we introduce you to several of our graduating seniors as they set out on new adventures.

Colby Delaney



Colby is an agribusiness management major from Rochester, N.Y. He is seeking a supply chain position in the food industry. "Kappa Sigma has taught me many lessons including what it means to be a leader, a good friend and a better man. I look at where this fraternity was four years ago — when we didn't have a house, a social schedule, or a THON partner. Then, I look at where we are now, and it makes me very proud at what we have all been able to accomplish. Sure, the parties and socials were a great time, but what I will miss the most is having my brothers around 24/7. Some of the best nights in college have come on a random weeknight when we were all just sitting around watching football or basketball and talking about who knows what. I am going to miss being an active Kappa Sigma but look forward to the many reunions in the future and the sharing of memories that will take place. I look forward to moving on to a new chapter in my life and seeing my brothers do the same, and I look forward to helping out the chapter as an alum. A.E.K.D.B." Colby can be reached at cjd5269@gmail.com.

Nicholas Douglas



A supply chain and information systems major from Birdsboro, Pa., Nick has accepted a job in management consulting with PwC in Philadelphia. "Most of my best memories from college are from Kappa Sigma. One of my favorites was attending Grand Conclave in Las Vegas for five days with four brothers from our chapter. I have learned what it means to be a part of something bigger than myself. As a past grand master, I have learned many

valuable lessons in leadership and how to work as a team toward a common goal. Kappa Sigmas are some of the best people you will ever meet." Nick can be reached at njd5130@gmail.com.

Connor Kincheloe



A Mountaintop, Pa., major in economics and political science, Connor will soon be moving to Washington, D.C., to pursue a career as a consultant for Bates White Economic Consulting. "As a Kappa Sigma during my college career, I have been surrounded by a group of brothers and best friends. I have learned that the collective efforts of a group can help overcome huge odds. My brothers have continued to build Kappa Sigma into a proud and respectable fraternity at Penn State while overcoming challenges other fraternities do not have to face. I feel very fortunate to be graduating with my fellow seniors. You have helped advance it to where it is today, and I could not be more excited for the future — led by our younger members. A.E.K.D.B." Connor can be reached at connor.kincheloe@gmail.com.

Sean Kotalik

A marketing major (and psychology minor) from West Chester, Pa., Sean is seeking a position that will allow him to use his degree in a sales capacity. "Kappa Sigma has supplied a great deal of memories during my time here at Penn State. I learned a lot from holding different positions in the fraternity and made a lot of great friendships. I am very proud of how far the fraternity has come in

my four years, culminating with our move to the current house." Sean can be reached at skotalik808@gmail.com.

Michael Petrunk



This agricultural and extension education major from Smithfield, Pa., is seeking a position in environmental sciences education. "I will always remember the times

spent on canning trips and raising money for THON, the times spent just hanging around the house developing as brothers and visiting Bologna, Italy, with two of my brothers from Alpha-Delta. I have learned many life lessons through Kappa Sigma as well, one being to always lead by example. Another lesson I learned is that being a Kappa Sigma is a lifelong commitment, and the eternal bonds we share are unlike anything else. I am so proud of my accomplishments through Kappa Sigma these last four years, and I look forward to becoming an active alumni in the future." Mike can be reached at mgp1562@gmail.com.

Corey Popp

Corey, a marketing major from Wilbraham, Mass., is pursuing a career in corporate marketing and would like to begin a coaching career in high school baseball or soccer. "Some of my best memories in life have come over the past four years. I have learned that brotherhood bonds made during my time at Kappa Sigma will last long past my graduation ... and until the day I die." Corey can be reached at coreypopp413@gmail.com.



Alpha-Delta graduating seniors (l-r) Corey Popp, Sean Lacy, Sean Kotalik, Ben Bortner, Colby Delaney and Nick Douglas.

ANNUAL FUND UPDATE

Making an Investment in Our Impressive Undergraduates ...

Can We Count on You?

As you have read throughout this newsletter, Alpha-Delta has an impressive group of active brothers. Stop for a moment and think about those alumni who supported our journey as undergraduates. They saw something in us worth their time and donations — an investment worth making to ensure the development of leaders, teachers, innovators, thinkers, husbands and fathers.



Where do you stand today on your support of the next generation to step into the halls of 232 E. Nittany Ave.?

During our 2013-2014 giving year, our alumni corporation brought in \$25,495 from 119 alumni. Thank you to the 64 brothers listed below who have given \$11,682 this year. With less than six months to go in our giving year, we still have work to go to reach our

\$30,000 goal. Can we count on you to make a gift this year?

Please remember how important your support is, no matter what your giving level. To make a gift, go to www.kappasigmapsu.com and click "Donate" in the upper right-hand corner of the home page. You can also send a check to Kappa Sigma Penn State, Alumni Relations Processing Center, P.O. Box 7007, Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007. Or you can call (800) 975-6699.

We look forward to hearing from you.

2013-14 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

We'd like to thank the following brothers for their generous contributions to our Annual Fund for the 2013-14 giving year which began last September*. Only through the support of these alumni are we able to continue our efforts to keep brothers connected.

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

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Thomas C. Hilbert | 1963 |
| R. Brad Lawrence | 1969 |

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

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| David B. Ludwig III | 1965 |
|---------------------|------|

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

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Walter J. Conti | 1952 |
| James E. Lovett Jr. | 1952 |
| H. Wesley Link | 1955 |
| John D. Kennon Jr. | 1968 |
| Thomas C. McNulty | 1968 |
| George M. Middlemas Jr. | 1968 |
| Albert R. Waldhuber | 1968 |
| Louis F. Koehler | 1969 |
| Michael B. High | 1970 |
| Anthony J. Buzzelli | 1971 |
| Robert W. Hampton Jr. | 1973 |

Crest Club (\$101 - \$250)

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| Samuel F. Stewart | 1950 |
| John T. Flynn | 1955 |
| Wayne A. Pihl | 1956 |
| Vincent D. DiLoreto | 1965 |
| Harold D. Schrader | 1965 |
| Michael J. Irwin | 1967 |
| Edward M. Lammi Jr. | 1970 |
| David J. Guerin Jr. | 1972 |
| Gary W. Link | 1972 |
| James O. Trainer Jr. | 1973 |
| John E. Wray Jr. | 1973 |
| Ronald F. Derzak | 1974 |
| James H. Leax Jr. | 1974 |
| Robert A. Wojciak | 1983 |

Joseph V. Colarusso (\$1-\$50)

| | |
|---|------|
| Joseph V. Colarusso | 1986 |
| John M. Murphy | 1989 |
| Douglas Byler | 1990 |
| Shawn L. Huber | 1996 |
| Mark Gerwig | 2012 |
| Blue & White Club (\$51-\$100) | |
| George (Bing) Bortle | 1954 |
| Josiah B. Morrill | 1956 |
| R. Dean Madden | 1963 |
| John T. Rogers | 1963 |
| Terry R. Eshenour | 1966 |
| Willard J. Martin Jr. | 1968 |
| Richard D. Chamberlain | 1971 |
| James Preston Charles | 1972 |
| Carl S. Crouse Jr. | 1973 |
| William H. Murdoch Jr. | 1973 |
| Bill (Ace) S. Vitori | 1973 |
| Michael A. Demoise | 1974 |
| Michael L. Reinert | 1997 |

Supporting Club (\$1-\$50)

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Theodore A. Lesko | 1940 |
| Joseph N. Succop II | 1948 |
| Kenneth I. Outwater Jr. | 1957 |
| Harry E. Koch | 1962 |
| Andrew Turner | 1962 |
| Geoffrey G. Wright | 1974 |
| Ralph W. Tolino | 1975 |
| Robert L. Berk | 1976 |
| Ralph D. Daley | 1979 |
| Leland Thaete M.D. | 1979 |
| Raymond A. Schon | 1990 |
| David E. Falchek | 1991 |
| Nathan J. Wurst | 2002 |
| Frank J. Summa | 2007 |

*Represents gifts received from September 1, 2013, through March 27, 2014.

What if Kappa Sig Decided to Ban Pledging?

Recently, Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) made an announcement that represents a shift in the way the fraternity approaches new-member policies and practices.

As stated in their official press release, "Effective March 9, 2014, new-member (pledge) programming will be eliminated completely from our operations, and the classification of new member (pledge) will no

longer exist. All chapters and colonies will be required to implement this important change." Is pledging becoming a thing of the past?

As the Greek community moves to strengthen its focus on leadership, scholarship and philanthropy, some are taking radical steps they hope will change the culture of chapters from drinking clubs to ... well, something more than drinking clubs.

Will it work? We want your opinions. Log in to our Kappa Sig website at www.kappasigma.com.

Once logged

in, go to the News section to this same article.

There, you can leave a comment (via Facebook).

