



TAU KAPPA EPSILON

RHO CHAPTER



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

Rho TKE Alumni Newsletter June 2010

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RCAA Year in Review

The 2009-10 school year was a turning point for Rho Chapter, the start of a new beginning with the *House that Byers Built (Justin Byers, P967)*. Despite a few new-house encounters with the fire marshal, the active chapter seemed to thrive in their new home.

As well, Tau Kappa Epsilon has experienced a surge in membership over the past few years, similar to rapid expansion seen in the late 80's. They remain a force to be reckoned with on the WVU campus. I'm proud to announce that 6 seniors graduated this spring, 12 members were initiated into the Knights of Classic Lore, and a new class of officers has been elected.

This year also marked the 4th consecutive year of the Alumni Association. Thanks to the dedication and support of the officers and alumni who generously donated their time and money, we've been able to maintain our support and positive momentum.

We've finished our year close to our membership goal, but we remain excited to continue our growth as a resource for Rho Chapter actives and alumni. 2010 brings new challenges and more aggressive goals.

This is where I ask for your help. Keep spreading the word about RCAA to alumni who haven't updated their information and aren't kept in the loop, and likewise, we will continue to reconnect and communicate to the group to keep the brotherhood alive.

The officers have been actively pursuing new ways to engage and interact with fellow alumni, through our Facebook Fan page, e-mail communications and website. Once you've completed this newsletter I urge you to take a few minutes to update your information through the website, and join the Facebook Fan page. If you have additional ideas on how to effectively communicate, we'd welcome your thoughts via e-mail or on the Facebook page.

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Tau-Kappa-Epsilon-Rho-Chapter-Alumni-Association/>

Website: <http://www.rhotkealumni.org>

The officers remain excited for the start of a new year, and we have begun discussing the creation of additional alumni weekends surrounding WVU basketball games, brotherhood events and exclusive alumni weekend retreats. Keep your eyes open for future communications, and feel free to contact me directly with any ideas, comments or thoughts.

YITB,

Jake Bendel, P1031

Rho Chapter Alumni Association President

E-mail jakebendel@gmail.com or officers@rhotkealumni.org

Chapter Housing

Another chapter in Rho TKE history is complete. It has now been one full school year for our chapter under the roof of our new house!

The first half of the year the property was under a temporary housing permit while key aspects of the construction project were completed. Examples being the basement, laundry room, kitchen and driveway. The actives had a few issues maintaining acceptable occupancy levels in the beginning of the year which resulted in fines by the city but were able to adjust their approach and processes accordingly as the year went on.



During the second half of the year the laundry room with three washers/dryers was finished and a concrete driveway was paved over spring break. 692 North High Street now has a city approved maximum capacity of 133 people. To help accommodate the 70+ active members, RCAA raised funds for and purchased 72 folding chairs and 3 folding tables for chapter and alumni events at the house.

Going into the 2010-2011 school year there are still a number projects the chapter could use our help and support with including finishing the bathroom in the basement, finishing the kitchen and painting the basement. All 33 leases have been signed for next year which gives us a full house again! If you would like to support the RCAA and the chapter in completing these projects, donations can be made easily through PayPal, Credit Card or check by using our [dues and donations](#) webpage.

[Click to see new house photos from May 2010](#)

Thanks to everyone who has supported Rho Chapter and RCAA in getting our new house endeavor to where it is today!

YITB, Matt Brady, P.945, Housing Chairman
<mattbrady7@gmail.com>

The New Career Committee

A new RCAA career committee has launched! One of the first target goals set was to establish a database that would enable us to connect undergrad mentees with alumni mentors. This database will serve as the career committee's main resource.

As a foundation for the database, we are compiling undergraduate member career interests, professional goals, and mentoring needs. The next step is to work with the Alumni base to collect professional information in order to best connect mentors & under-or-recent graduates.

Our key challenges through the end of this calendar year are to find a simple, accurate, and systematic way to gather and maintain Active & Alumni data. We must also logically compile and organize a library of career resources for distribution amongst the active chapter.

If you have interest or expertise in helping young Fraters as they enter the work environments, the Career Committee could use your help. Contact Ben Hunter to:

- Volunteer your services in the new Career Committee. Particularly alumni in the fields of Human Resources, Career Counseling, and IT/Database experience.
- Mentor an undergraduate TKE who may benefit from your professional experience. (Even before database is complete).

Ben Hunter, Chairman of the Career Committee
<benjamin.e.hunter@gmail.com>

Chapter Update

Fraters, My name are Will Carswell and I am the new President of Tau Kappa Epsilon, Rho chapter. I am a senior from Frederick, MD studying marketing. In the past I have served as the Vice-President of IFC (WVU Inter-Fraternity Council) as well as the philanthropy and special events chairs. As special events chairman, TKE took place 3rd in Greek week, raised over \$1,000 for the Alzheimer's association, and organized the first ever TKE fall-ball event which generated \$600 for the chapter.

With our chapter up to 77 members, Rho chapter is in the position to do great things. I am looking forward to working with my fellow brothers, alumni, and the University to make the 2010-2011 school year one to remember.

Our goals include collecting 100% of dues, initiating a minimum of 35 new brothers, participating in 700 hours of community service, placing in Homecoming/Greek Week, and being recognized by the university as Best Fraternity on Campus. These goals will take a strong strategy and hard work, but I believe they are attainable.

I'm excited about the caliber of guys elected to office this year; good men committed to the same idea of excellence as myself:

Eric Bechtel, Epi-Prytanis
Hunter Timko, Crysophylos
Matt Plantier, Hypophetes
Josh Cooper, Grammateus
Dom Guillermo, Hegemon
Gabe Gibellino, Histor
Shaun Hansen, Pylortes

I look forward to working with you all next year.

YITB, Will Carswell
Prytanis, Rho Chapter
<wcarswel@mix.wvu.edu>

Scholarship Awards for Carswell & Larsen

Thanks to all the Alumni who donated to the Rho Chapter Scholarship Fund this past year. In the 2009-2010 fiscal year we raised \$3,458.00 from direct donations that will help in our goal to maintain this Scholarship program for years to come. We also took in \$1,105.00 that came out of the dues that Alumni members pay. We had a good year with a total donation amount of \$4,563.00.

At Red Carnation Ball in April, we awarded the 10th annual Robert Butcher and Phillip Tennant Memorial Scholarship Awards. As always, thank you to those who continue to support our effort to keep this program going. It means a lot to the undergraduates that win these awards. The winner of the Robert Butcher Memorial Scholarship is Will Carswell, and the winner of the Phillip Tennant Memorial Scholarship is Eric Larsen.

In other scholarship news, I will be updating the donation plaques. Soon you and others will be able to stop by the TKE house and see your name and scroll number showing that you have made a donation to our Fund.

It is also time to start this year's drive for scholarship donations. Thanks to the alumni who have already sent in their donations for this year. Along with paying your dues, please continue to support our fund and send in your donations, either to Dan Long (Alumni Treasurer), or Me (RCAA Scholarship Chairman), you can also use PayPal to make your donations.

YITB,
Gary Nolan Welch-Bass II, P775
RCAA Scholarship Chairman
Rho Chapter Advisor - Life Loyal Teke
12 Monument Ln, Morgantown, WV 206508
(304)376-2277 wbasp775tke@msn.com

Rho Knights of Classic Lore Initiated

This year the alumni of Rho Chapter started up The Knights of Classic Lore. This is an honorary group within the undergrad Chapter chosen for the ideals they show as gentlemen, and the effort they give in maintaining the legacy and honor of Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity. The first inductees of this honorary group are:

P1077 Joel Pinto	P1110 Dan Heumann
P1120 Jake Gingerich	P1124 Garrett Long
P1129 Kevin Quain	P1132 Jeff Upson
P1136 Will Carswell	P1139 Kyle Golombus
P1140 Nick Humphreys	P1142 Eric Larsen
P1162 Hunter Timko	P1196 Jake Springer

Dues for 2010-2011

Just \$20 a year helps RCAA sponsor events and keeps the organization running. April is the month all annual dues are collected for the fiscal year of April 2010-2011.

If you are a WVU TKE alumni or transfer, please consider becoming and RCAA member this year by sending your \$20 donation. Your membership pays for: alumni events, the scholarship funds, chapter support, alumni communication and mail campaigns to find alumni.

While joining or renewing your membership, add a \$25, \$50, \$100, or \$1000 donation to your dues payment to help RCAA reach its housing and scholarship goals.

To pay dues now using Pay Pal or Check, click "[Dues & Donations](#)" to go to the Rho TKE Alumni website.

* For PayPal add 1.25 for services charge.

* For checks, make out "Tau Kappa Epsilon Rho Chapter Board of Control, Inc." and send to Daniel Long, 45582 Trestle Terrace, Sterling, VA 20166

RCAA Fundraising Chairmanship Available

Ready to get hone your leadership skills? The Rho Chapter Alumni Association now has an opening for the Fundraising Chairman position. All Alumni are eligible, and the role starts immediately. If interested in being nominated or just want to learn more, contact RCAA President, Jake Bendel <jakebendel@gmail.com>.