



Rho Chapter Alumni Association

West Virginia University



Rho TKE Alumni Newsletter

November 2006

Message from the President

As an active, I never lived in what is now the TKE house, but how familiar it felt to be in the Chapter Room this October at the Homecoming Alumni Meeting surrounded by 35 brothers scattered among disordered rows of second-hand sofas. This is the first Alumni function where we saw solid representation from each generation from 1977 through 2006. Most guys had eight or ten brothers from their era, and they, in turn connected with eight or ten brothers from other eras. Those at the meeting witnessed the timeless combination of bonding and disorder that happens at TKE meetings, especially one on a Friday night before Homecoming.

And my recollection of a tailgate, back in the day, was a small group of guys (and someone's girlfriend) gathered around a keg on the back of a Toyota Corolla. In 2006, it was an entire semi-private parking lot with a live band (a good one), and about 200-plus people: actives, rushees, alumni, girls, parents, plus assorted others. It was both colossal and intimate. And oh yea, the game was pretty good too.

Red Carnation Ball (the RCB) April 2007 promises to be an impressive event. Check the website for details, but join the Association now, and book your tickets for RCB early. Attendance at alumni events is spiking upward event after event, and you will undoubtedly run into some of your best TKE friends at the RCB. Digital pictures won't do it justice, you'll want to be there.

See you at RCB!

Scott Chatelain - P693

Alumni Association President

Budget & Finance

We have made great strides over the past several months. Thanks to the generosity of our continually growing Rho Chapter Alumni Association membership we have collected over \$2,000.00 in funds. On the Alumni Association webpage you will find a listing of all donating Fraters along with a ranking of their generosity. Think of this as the Rho Chapter Alumni Association Wall of Fame. Our current fund balances are as follows:

Associations Operations	\$260
Social	\$420
Undergraduate Donation	\$120
Scholarships	\$580
Housing	\$355

These balances take into account both collections and expenditures to date. Expenses incurred thus far have been for our business license, state taxes, Fraternity For Life pins, Homecoming events, and undergraduate chapter donation.

Remember when making donations that, beyond the base \$20 donation, you can specify where you would your money to go. Simply write on the check memo or add a comment on your Paypal transaction.

Please feel free to contact me at tkep1001@hotmail.com if you have any questions, ideas, or concerns regarding the finances of the Rho Chapter Alumni Association.

Yours in the Bond,

Sam R. Cross, P1001

Alumni Association Treasurer

House & Chapter Update

House Update

The alumni association fundraising and housing committee's have begun initial discussions with the current TKE house owner to scope out the details of the alumni association acquiring the property. The housing committee has been staying on top of current house conditions and is working closing with the chapter on making noticeable improvements both inside and outside of the house. One of the goals of the housing committee is to have an alumni representative visit the chapter once a month to evaluate the state and condition of the property. This will help to build a bond of trust and understanding between the chapter, the alumni and the owner.

The housing committee is targeting Jan. 1st, 2007 as the date for making a decision on whether to proceed with the alumni association acquiring the house or not. To help gauge the level of interesting in participating in the house acquisition and ownership, we are in the process of compiling an online survey that we asking for your completion of in a seperate communication. Please keep an eye out for the survey.

Chapter Update

For those that did not attend homecoming weekend you missed Epiprytanis Grant Stetz P.1086 winning the title of Homecoming King over two Fiji candidates. Homecoming Queen was won

by Danielle Boyd who is a Kappa Kappa Gamma. 19 new brothers will be initiated on Sunday December 3rd. The chapter will have 60 members then, including transfer Patrick Smith (Upsilon-Theta #30 UMBC). The chapter retreat will be held December 1st. The chapter has participated in many community service activities from Habitat for Humanity to volunteering at the local Boys and Girls Club.

To keep everyone informed as to what is going on with other fraternities at WVU, Sigma Phi Epsilon have been removed from West Virginia University by their national head quarters due to their inability to maintain a chapter. They are in significant debt, have had two civil suits filed against them for hazing and resulting from the house fire caused by fireworks on November 1st 2003. They have not met or maintained their membership requirements or their academic requirements as a chapter. They have been banned from the University until all of their active brothers have graduated. The Delta Tau Delta house is still unoccupied and in need of repairs. No news has been presented on the status of their chapter.

The house is steadily improving. Work on the 3rd floor hallway has started and hopefully will be finished and painted by winter break. Any and all donations of home improvement supplies including plaster, wood, tools, paint, etc as well as furniture and any other items thought to be useful are welcome. Please contact Sam Cross (tkep1001@hotmail.com) if you would like to make a donation to the chapter to help in this effort. Nearly 80% of dues have been collected this year and all rent has been paid in full and utility bills on time. Elections for new officers will be held during the first meeting in April.

Events

We had a very successful homecoming with well over 35 alumni in attendance. We supplied burgers, hotdogs, chips and sodas Friday evening for the actives and alumni. At the meeting we performed the Fraternity for Life ceremony and had a great time at the tailgate. It was a great weekend to catch up with friends and meet new ones through our common bond.

Upcoming events we are working on include regional events in Charlotte, Washington DC, Pittsburgh, NY/NJ and Charleston. I am in the process of recruiting brothers to lead and organize each area. Responsibilities would include contacting alumni in your area using the database on the alumni site, selecting the time and place for the event and having fun. Suggested events would be a bowling night, poker night, Bowl Game Party, WVU vs. Marshall Basketball game or anything unique to your region. If you are at all interested in becoming a regional leader, please contact me at jonathonauch@hotmail.com or on my cell at 304-615-9936 and I will be happy to help plan your region.

Please mark your calendars for RCB to be held on Saturday, April 21st at Lakeview Golf and Spa Resort in Morgantown. Last year we had 20 alumni and I would like to double that number for 2007. It is a great opportunity to reconnect and stay active in the alumni association. We will be having the meeting Saturday before RCB at Noon and performing the Fraternity for Life ritual for those who could not attend homecoming.

We are also planning a summer retreat at a golf/spa resort with more details to follow. Please pass on any recommendations for events and I will look to make them possible.

Yours In The Bond,
Jonathan Auch, P.963
Events Chairman

Fundraising

Right now we the alumni of Rho Chapter find ourselves in the midst of what may possibly be our most important and certainly our most exciting time in alumni history. Our legacies as alumni have the opportunity to live on for generations to come; Our goals are being set in the first crucial stages of our organized existence; and the foundation of our collective actions in the next decade will most surely decide the future of our undergraduate's existence. As we pledged in our bond to TKE and Rho Chapter in the past and as future generations will do so in the future, WE have the obligation to do what we can to see that this future is secure.

Joining the Rho Chapter Alumni Organization is a good start. Your annual dues will be allocated towards each of the following five funds:

Housing Fund
Scholarship Fund
Alumni Association Operations Fund
Alumni Social Fund
Undergraduate Chapter Fund

As you can tell from the Treasurer report above, our annual dues are helpful but certainly not enough to see our goals for the future through. We will continue to rely on a strong alumni base until these goals are met. We have a lot of work ahead of us, but keeping our eyes on the prize will one day mean that future alumni and undergraduates alike will reap the obvious benefits.

Our house acquisition is definitely our most exciting venture. While we are still in formation, imagine what could be: A TKE house owned by the alumni association with lower rent for actives, tighter governance and upkeep, and fund surplus going toward recognizing achievements, rush, events and scholarship.

Not to be outshone by our Housing, is our Scholarship fund. These are much more achievable in the near term. What do these scholarships mean to undergraduates? What would it have meant to you if these scholarships were enough to be incentives to be not only a good TKE but also an outstanding TKE. The higher these scholarships could go the more the chapter will thrive.

There is absolutely no telling how high Rho chapter could fly if only given the wings.

Yours in the Bond,
Robert Wolfe
P997, Fundraising Chairman

Family History Project

It has always been a project of the Histor to keep track of the family trees of the alumni and actives alike. We have been working closely with the active officers to permanently capture this information online for everyone to access. In an effort to help our catalog of family history grow, we request that you please fill out the

Family History Form

<http://www.rhotkealumni.org/familyhistory/Family-History-Form.doc>

You can track the progress of the Rho TKE Family History Project by going to our homepage

at <http://www.rhotkealumni.org> and clicking on the Family Tree logo or by clicking on the link below.

<http://www.rhotkealumni.org/familyhistory/familyhistory.htm>

Spread The Word

We are currently only distributing this newsletter by email only, so we could use everyone's help in spreading the word about the Rho TKE Alumni Association. Please forward this e-newsletter on to any Rho TKE's that you have email addresses for. In addition for those who keep in contact with non-internet/non-email reachable TKE's, we could use your help in sending out this newsletter to three or more of your closest TKE friends. If they don't have email, please print and send via US Post. I bet they would appreciate hearing from you and from the Rho Chapter Alumni Association.

If you do receive this newsletter and have an email address we would love to hear from you. Please send us an email at alumni@rhotkealumni.org and we can get you signed up to receive future announcements and newsletters. If you don't have an email address, but updated contact information to pass along or would like to get involved by joining the alumni association please reach out to the fraters below via phone.

Scott Chatelain – Alumni Association President (703-728-9381)

Joe Janosik – Alumni Association Membership Chair (412-855-2324)

So make plans to attend an Alumni Event with three or more of your closest TKE friends by spreading the word!

Online

- Alumni Site: www.rhotkealumni.org
- Forum Site: www.forums.tke-rho.com
- Alumni Email: alumni@rhotkealumni.org

#####

I _____, am making a donation to "The Rho Chapter Scholarship Fund" in the amount of _____.

Mail to: Tau Kappa Epsilon
TKE Educational Foundation
Indianapolis, IN 46268

#####

I _____, am making a dues and/or housing donation to "Tau Kappa Epsilon Rho Chapter Board of Control, Inc." in the amount of _____.

Mail to: Samuel R. Cross, Treasurer
14104 Valleyfield Drive
Unit. #5
Silver Spring, MD 20906

#####

©2007 Tau Kappa Epsilon, Rho Chapter Alumni Association