



Mountaineer Pike

Electronic Newsletter of the Alpha Theta Alumni Association of Pi Kappa Alpha

June 2005

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Important : This newsletter is being distributed via email from our Yahoo Groups distribution list only. We're always concerned that SPAM filters intercept messages with large distribution lists. Please help us by forwarding this message to other Brothers whose email address you have. Also, help us keep our email list up to date. See the "Web Sites" topic below.

Chapter News

Brendan Ruppert Selected Greek Man of the Year at WVU

The Greek Man of the Year award is certainly a tremendous honor both for Brendan and Alpha Theta. Brendan was nominated by the WVU administration along with three other men, a Theta Chi, Sigma Chi, and a Beta. They were all interviewed by a panel of seven from the University community. His chapter leadership as SMC of Alpha Theta and campus leader were a major factor in his selection.

Brendan comments, "I was especially proud of the way that the Greek system evolved over the last year, and I believe that was our greatest achievement. By engaging all the other houses in discussion and looking for ideas from everyone, not just our own house, we were able to cross a lot of boundaries and realize a lot of things that often get lost in the stupidity of inter-house conflict. I think we raised the level of debate and were able to do it in a constructive manner."
(note - Brendan graduated in May and has begun a new job in Memphis as a Chapter Consultant for PiKA.)

Alpha Theta Initiates - Spring 2005 (left to right)



Zack Stone (Communications, North Vale, NJ),
Caleb Gill (Mechanical & Aerospace Eng, Boonsboro, MD),
Gayle Bailey (Political Science, Fairfax, VA),
Chad Franciscus (Political Science, Harrisburg, PA),
Brandon Mark (Natural Resources & Environmental Economics, Oakland, MD),
Matt Bealko (Physics, Clarksburg, WV),
Mike Rudd (General Studies, Kennett Square, PA)

Alumni Summer Event Updates

Morgantown 2005

Our plans are set (a contract is signed) for a hotel several brothers have already committed to stay at. The Radisson has offered a special rate of \$85 per night for single or double rooms (that's down from their standard \$109 rate). If you want to stay there, call the Radisson at 304-296-1700 and tell them you're with the Alpha Theta group; they'll need your credit card info to guarantee the room.

We've also arranged for dinner on Saturday night at the Radisson in a private room adjacent to the restaurant. Radisson's standard Saturday night meal is an all you can eat prime rib buffet that's reportedly excellent. We already have 20 folks committed for the dinner and Mack Gardner needs to hear from those of you who haven't committed, but are going to attend. All costs for the dinner (room, prime rib buffet, tax, and tip) add up to \$30 per person.

Please send Mack a note as soon as you can to let him know your plans. The block of rooms we've reserved can be expanded to take more reservations, but the closer we get to the date the harder that will be to do. And he'll need to provide a final count for the dinner on Monday before we arrive. Email mackgardner@aol.com or call him at (703) 450-2127.

Additional weekend events include the traditional activities (***please RSVP as noted for planning***):

Friday - Picnic at Coopers Rock (Bob and Phyllis Risher, BobRisher@charter.net).

Saturday - golf (John Allevato, jtall@adelphia.net), open house at 117 Belmar, and free time for visits to traditional venues (like Mario's (aka Torches), Gene's and campus sites).

Also, last year visits to the Spa at the Radisson and a pontoon boat tour of Cheat Lake were popular events for the ladies. This year we're also planning a tour and wine tasting at Forks of the Cheat Winery <http://www.wvwines.com/> . If interested drop a note to Doug Ladish ladish@mindspring.com .

Some of the early responders include: Roger Galloway, Andy Barrett, Larry Cobb, Tom Pendleton, Dennis Logue, Al Dering, Mack Gardner, Doug Ladish, Jack Russell, Charlie Abraham and Bill Chittum. So mark your calendars and let Mack know of your interest in the block of rooms.

Summer Golf Outing and Sandbagger Classic

August 12-13, Steve Gigliotti is hosting this event in the Jamestown, North Carolina. Contact Steve for details sgigliotti@triad.rr.com . Steve will be providing info on courses, tee times, and hotels.

(please note the change in date from what was reported in earlier messages)

House Company Update

After extensive planning early in the year a feasibility study was launched in March. The purpose was to seek input on plans for renovation of the house. The preliminary report has been received from Omega Alumni Services. We are currently planning for presentation of the report to an Alumni gathering(s) this summer. Stay tuned for further developments! For questions feel free to contact either Joe Feola (Joseph.Feola@morganstanley.com) or Doug Ladish (ladish@mindspring.com).

Alumni News

Web Sites

Remember our new website: www.WVUPikes.com . This interactive site lets you search our address list (both email and street) to make contact with a brother. Also there is a section for News and Information. Here you can see notes posted by Alumni and post one your self. Finally, there is a "Lost Brothers" list. Please check this list and click on the Initiate Year heading to sort the list by initiation date. Let us know if you have any contact info for Brothers on this list. You can even update your own contact information under the Update Your Records link on the Home page.

We still maintain other websites: www.geocities.com/PiKAWVU/ an index to multiple sites of current and historic interest to Alpha Theta, WVU and PiKA International; and http://groups.yahoo.com/group/pika_alphatheta/ our Yahoo Groups site which has multiple photo albums with pictures over the past 70 years of Alpha Theta history.

Alumni Association Dues

US Postal mailings are expensive, but they are the only way to reach some of our alumni. The "Address Service" offered by the Postal Service also helps us keep up with Brothers who move and forget to alert us. Please send a check for \$25 (...or \$50 or more) to our Treasurer: Reggie Osenton, (oro@whh-law.com) 4118 Imperial Eagle Drive, Valrico FL 33594

***In the bonds,
Doug Ladish***