



Mountaineer Pike

Electronic Newsletter of the Alpha Theta Alumni Association



October 2006, part 2

NEWS OF THE ALUMNI

I have quite a bit of news for and about the alumni, but first an update on the Bell. The active chapter is engaged on two fronts. First, they are refurbishing the Bell Carriage and hopefully will have it gleaming and securely anchored near the entrance to the House by Homecoming with an appropriate sign that reminds all those who enter of the proud tradition of the Bell. It's not only a tradition of Alpha Theta and PiKA but also important to WVU and Morgantown at large. And, by way of the sign and in this spirit, we will let it be known that we are seeking the assistance of all so that the Bell can resume its tradition of rousing the Mountaineer Spirit. On the second front, the Chapter continues its low-key search for the Bell through discrete inquiries. They do have some leads that they feel are promising. Your thoughts and suggestions are appreciated.

We again solicit history and anecdotes about the bell with a view to a wider appeal through the Athenaeum and the Morgantown papers. Send your stories, thoughts and ideas to:
mitchline@yahoo.com

We did receive a number of responses to the last edition. Larry Cobb, Rick Robinson, Marty Work and Terry Broadwater all sent notes of encouragement, but we'd like to get a little news from all of you.

Marty Work is in Fredericksburg, VA. Been trying to get him on the phone, but we are both fast moving targets and haven't connected yet. An email tells me he just got back from a National Brain Injury Conference held in Miami, FL. John Allevato tells me that Marty is a consultant in risk management and tort litigation strategies. Marty spent a long career with the Geico Insurance Company.

Terry Broadwater let us know that he is with Wainright & Co, Realtors at the Lake, Moneta VA.

Jim Brewster sent a little story, and it appears here in his own words: "Been pondering the bell. I finally remembered one vignette. A panty raid on Woman's Hall was led by a basketball player wearing a stocking over his head who shouted 'follow me, no one will recognize me.' Joe Gluck [Dean of Men] arrived and thanked those Pikes "observing" the raid for not bringing the bell. It would have caused major havoc had it been loudly on site. Wish I had more but that's it for now. Colorado is great. Glad we moved to the high and dry. Would like to be at Homecoming; however, Jan and I will be toddling around Europe. Last nite's win over Md. was a good thing. Now for Louisville and a roll on to another Bowl win."

Thanks for the story Jim! It reminds me that I promised you more on the 1959 victory over Pitt. After the customary victory celebration with the BELL leading the parade down High and up Spruce, then a lull for dinner, a huge throng gathered outside University President Elvis J. Stahr's home. By then it was well after dark and the crowd, chanting "We beat the Hell out of Pitt" and "Under the Arm, Pitt" grew to at least 2000. (Probably more. The total Morgantown enrollment was "5900 in '59"). We were campaigning for a holiday from classes in celebration of the victory. The crowd chanted and grew steadily for at least an hour when finally, President Stahr came out

onto the second story balcony of the President's Home and addressed the crowd. He gave the expected proud victory speech telling us how he shared our high spirits and delight in the victory, but ended on the sad note that there would be NO HOLIDAY from classes. Immediately the loud cry went up from several: "PANTY RAID". The entire throng, almost entirely male, charged for Women's Hall. (The enrollment at the time was 80% men, and the women students had obviously been forewarned that there might be some rowdiness.) Obviously the University had taken other precautions, as the entire perimeter of Women's Hall was ringed by Proctors and other University officials (in those idyllic days there was no such thing as Campus Police - that came a couple of years later). They gave each student they recognized a stern warning to go home immediately or face expulsion if they proceeded further. Soon the crowd dispersed and went home. The reason for the long delay for President Stahr's appearance on the balcony was apparent. Obviously, the University officials had taken a page from the playbook of the experience Jim Brewster witnessed a couple of years earlier, and were busy arranging their defenses.

Hank Wagner and I had lunch in Louisville last week. Hank recently retired as CEO of JHHS, a large health care provider throughout Indiana and Kentucky. He acknowledges that he has been out of touch for a while, but is very interested in the fraternity and hopefully will become more active now that he is retired. Hank is a past SMC and ThC and has a wealth of experience. He and his wife Donna live in Louisville most of the year, but also spend time in Naples, FL and Nashville, TN. They are leaving this week on a flight to Amsterdam, and from there will be going on a barge tour of Europe. Bon Voyage! Hank has three children, a grandson and another grandson on the way. All live in the Louisville area. His daughter Stephanie is married to an architect. Son Jeff is in Real Estate Development and married to an attorney. Son Alex is single and with the marketing department of Humana Healthcare. With Louisville now in the Big East, Hank is doubly wired into college football, and did attend the last WVU vs. Louisville game. You can probably guess who he cheered for. Hank was invited to give the Commencement address to the WVU School of Business graduating class of '04, and since has been invited to serve as VP of Health Affairs and to serve on the National Health Care Advisory Council which meets twice a year at the Health Science Center at WVU. So he is again very involved with the University and its leaders. Welcome Aboard Hank!

Also spoke with Tom Pitsenberger to thank him for the help he gave me back in July researching some places for my high school's reunion; its first since 1962. Also gave me a chance to get a little news from Tom. He is retired from the practice of dentistry, and is still living in Elkins with his wife, Donna (seems to be a run on Donnas lately). Tom says they do a fair amount of traveling - especially to keep up with the five grandchildren. One grandchild lives in Hurricane, WV (near Huntington) the children of daughter Angela Fry. Two more are in Mouth of Seneca, WV (near Seneca Rocks, one of the many scenic splendors of West Virginia for those visiting for either Homecoming or the Elkins Forest Festival), the children of daughter Ashley. Ashley graduated with majors in Anthropology and Speech Therapy, and is married to Wesleyan minister Matthew Harper, an Alpha Theta initiate of the 90's. Two more grand children are those of son Travis who did a tour in Iraq and is now employed at the Medium Security Prison in Huttonsville, WV. He is active in Emergency Services, Volunteer Fire Company, and is a canine officer. Travis and family live in nearby Beverly, WV. Son Jay, a confirmed bachelor, says Tom, and avid outdoorsman is an electrician and divides his time between Elkins and Montana.

Roger Galloway was the first to email me after the last newsletter and comes near the end only because I had to scroll to the bottom of my email to review his. His note is so cheering; I will quote it.. "Just wanted to say hi. Sorry I missed you a year ago at that reunion (and I didn't make it this year.) As you know, I went thru a lot in March 2004. It's been a long difficult struggle. A year and a half ago I could barely talk (had a trach operation among other multiple things,) Now, I'm news director for Tri States Network in Arizona. If you get a chance, please visit www.justsaynews.com. I'm also the managing editor of that online paper...." He also mentions "Good Sunday" an internet radio show which he hosts, and invites you to tune in. 'Good Sunday' -- click it on the above web site. You can download iTunes, the small software program

needed. If you already have iTunes downloaded, click QuickTime and listen to the show I host (above and beyond the news). Let me know if I can help sometime with your newsletter. Keep in touch." Thanks for the note Roger, and for the offer to help with the newsletter. I'll be calling on you.

Bill Chittum also mentioned "Good Sunday" and suggested the brothers tune in. He says Roger and Jack Russell (apparently a frequent guest) often mention Pi K A and Alpha Theta, and helped last year to get word out about the August Reunion. We all owe a big debt of gratitude to Bill Chittum. He's my anchorman in Morgantown and never refuses a request for assistance. He is also the one who puts my sloppy email letter into a beautiful format and sends it to our list of the faithful. Many thanks, Bill!

Mack Gardner and his crew have made great strides in locating the lost brothers, but they need your help. There are about 250 they have been unable to find with the search service they used. Attached to this email you will find a file that lists those still missing. Please review that list and send any leads you may have to Mack, email: mackgardner@aol.com

Finally, please send me any news or stories you might have. I'm especially interested in news or personal items from the late 60s through the 90s. Email to: mitchline@yahoo.com It's helpful not only for the newsletter, but also for the History of Alpha Theta which is the ultimate goal! This effort can be successful only with the participation of all. I especially, would like to have news from our capital campaign leaders. But EVERYONE SEND SOMETHING!

In ppka,
Mitch Mitchell
Editor

NEWS OF THE ACTIVE CHAPTER

Our Philanthropy weekend was a success. The Dream Girl Pageant attracted plenty of gorgeous women up to the Pike house to compete and support their sisters. The first round of the competition was personal attire, the second garnet and gold costume, and the third was evening



attire. Gina Mason, a Sigma Kappa majoring in Criminology and Investigation, was crowned as Pike Dream Girl after she proved her knowledge of and dedication to the Alpha Theta Chapter. It also helped that she filled out a dress very well. Alumni Brothers Jon Girard, Joe Hoover, and Joe Rosetti visited Morgantown to judge the Dream Girl Pageant. We were also joined by alumni Jess Anderson, Aaron Bowser, Nick Cherry, Jason Coss, Brad Smith, and Bryan Smith for Pikefest and the weekend.

We found eighteen good guys to begin their journey to become Pike men.



John Rostick, Ryan Combs, Paul Floor, Zac Lambert, Tito Grayson Owen, Patrick Tagianetti, Ian Bailey, Steve Hudson, Noel Nacpil, Brad Blickenstaff, Andrew Shreves, Tom Hendrix, Chris Kitzmiller, Mike Hudzik, Matt Ponchian, Sammy Anouni, Brent Kottner, and John Kauffman were pinned on Thursday the 21st and we took them out afterwards to celebrate the beginning of their pledging process. Names are not in order of photo.

Both the Pike Garnet and Gold teams are currently undefeated (2-0) in flag football.

Dodgeball is starting soon, and we have upcoming tryouts for two separate Pike squads. Pikes will also be competing in Alpha Xi Delta's Ultimate Frisbee Philanthropy.

We have expanded our Chick-fil-A sandwich sale fundraiser past Evansdale to the Mountainlair and Woodburn Circle. Currently we have 100% campus involvement in different activities and clubs such as the Italian American Organization, Catholic Church Club, and Cheerleading. On this Saturday the 30th, Brothers Cory Vamos, Adam Lynch, and Michael Madia attended the West Virginia Greek Leadership Summit.

Any Pike in town for Homecoming is invited to come up to the Pike House at 8:00 Saturday after WVU beats Syracuse for a get together. All brothers are also invited to the pre-game tailgate. The location is still not confirmed but will probably be the usual location on Harding Ave., between McDonalds and Mountaineer Field. If you need directions contact S.M C> Ryan Coss or me. The active chapter would also like to extend a challenge to the alumni for a game of football Sunday morning.

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