

# Kapers

A PUBLICATION OF THE ALPHA KAPPA CHAPTER OF PI KAPPA ALPHA



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Pi Kappa Alpha  
Alpha Kappa Chapter  
P.O. Box 156  
Rolla, MO 65402

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# Kapers

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# President's Desk

The members of Alpha Kappa had another very successful year. At the 2010 International Convention held in Austin, Texas this summer, Alpha Kappa was once again the center of attention. For the third time in five years, Alpha Kappa was awarded the title of "House of the Year", which is given to the Chapter with the best property management and maintenance policies. The Chapter also won its seventh consecutive Robert Adger Symthe Award, given to the top 5% of all chapters. Alpha Kappa was also recognized with awards for 100% participation in the  $\phi\kappa\alpha$  club, division 1 athletics, a chapter excellence award, scholarship plate (GPA above 3.0), international workday, and 25 man commitment to Pike University events.

Alpha Kappa then returned from the International Convention and started out the semester strong. A huge accomplishment that was completed over the summer was creating a new fully functioning website. The new website is a huge tool for posting upcoming events and news about the active chapter with Alumni and parents. =Also it is a great tool for recruitment, it has all the information needed for parents and a virtual house tour as well. One of the biggest challenges this semester was having Greek Week and Homecoming only a week apart. Our Greek Week float committee dominated on campus thanks to brothers Arthur Hartt (AK '09) and Nicholas Windhorst (AK '09). Then following Greek Week with only a week to prepare, our yard display took 1st place, putting Pikes over the edge in winning Homecoming 2010. With great preparation by our special events chair brother Greg Crannick (AK '07) we were able to once again have a first place victory in both events.

The members of Alpha Kappa continued to challenge themselves in completing over 6,500 hours of community service for the semester. A bulk of these hours were completed

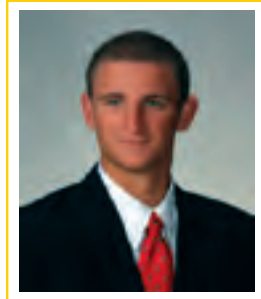
from Alpha Kappa attending two service trips this semester, one in Springfield, Missouri helping out habitat for humanity and the other was in Potosi, Missouri.

Following the two community service events, Alpha Kappa held their second annual Sack Lunch-a-thon. Raising over \$2,500 from selling sack lunches where all proceeds went to the Friday Backpack Program which provides a backpack, filled with school supplies and various nonperishable food items, to underprivileged children in the Rolla School District.

These are some of the highlights that Alpha Kappa completed this semester, but to me one of the most exciting and challenging topics that Alpha Kappa focused on is New Member Education. Alpha Kappa formally pledged 28 quality young gentlemen, the largest class that has passed through our doors since 1983 (according to Brother Pierre Powell). The pledge class of Fall 2010 is doing a great job so far this semester. With their pledge educator brother John Binz (AO '04) guiding them, and also challenging them throughout the semester. His efforts seem to be going a long way here at Alpha Kappa. In the past couple semesters I have been here, one of Alpha Kappa's weak point was New Member Education and retention. Brother Binz has worked extremely hard on creating ways to improve the program with new initiatives geared toward rewarding the pledge class for their successes, either as a pledge class or as individuals.

With almost two complete member turnovers from the first of our streak of Smythe Awards, it is paramount that the chapter stay focused on our core values and objectives. We cannot allow ourselves to become stagnant. I am confident both in the executive council serving under me and in the burgeoning leaders I see in the younger classmen that Alpha Kappa will continue to be a flagship chapter to all of Pi Kappa Alpha. The task of educating, motivating, and guiding the younger members of the chapter falls on the aged and experienced brothers. But the task of finding and recruiting new members that will continue to uphold the operations and standards of our beloved fraternity falls on all of the Pi Kappa Alpha Brotherhood. As a chapter, our actions and accomplishments speak more loudly than any words, and we will continue to uphold this habit of excellence for many years to come.

In the bonds,  
John Van Gels



*John Van Gels  
SMC, Fall 2010*

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Alumni Relations

# Ramsay's Corner

One hundred five years ago, William McTighe and Faris Walker asked the advice of a member of the Zeta Chapter about how to form a PiKA chapter at MSM. They approached Seltzer, Wright, Taggart, Jones and Morgan and after evaluation were installed as the Alpha Kappa Chapter. Do you suppose they would recognize what Alpha Kappa has become over these many long years? I think they would. They would recognize the quality of men and the commitment the Active Members and Alumni alike show for each other and for the Chapter. They would recognize the values we hold dear, those same values they held. The values that are found in our ritual and the values that continue to guide us, young men and old, as we journey through life as Pikes. They would recognize Brotherhood, and the dogged determination to excel.

We are engineers, for the most part, and like numbers. I am proud of the Active Chapter bringing home the 7th Smythe in a row and the 19th for the Chapter. You should all be proud of those 19 Smythes starting with the first one back in 1935. That is a lot of Smythes; it's the most that any chapter in PiKA has ever won.

The Active Chapter also brought home our 3rd House of the Year Award, which is a remarkable achievement given that the award has only been in existence for a few years. AK has more of those than any other Chapter within PiKA.

None of this would have happened without dedicated and committed Alumni group working hand in hand with a determined and focused Active Chapter. As you know, I have written over and over again, that I think the value of the Smythe Award are not the pretty trophies even though they look nice in the library cases. It's value lies in the brotherhood formed in doing all the work, making the plans, executing the activities, and building the relationships based on ppka that are required to achieve.

Alumni are key to AK's success and achievement. I am not talking about my job as Chapter Advisor. The days of a single Chapter Advisor being able to do it all are long gone. I am talking about you who have stepped up in a variety of ways to contribute to the success of AK. You who have provided money for scholarships, you who have given tremendous amounts of your time, you who have struggled with the details, you who answer the call each and every time. You who we all depend on. And I am talking about you who will step up and lead in the future. You truly are the men who have lifted AK to your shoulders and carried it into the future. And, it's for you that I am so very grateful.

We stand today as one of the best examples of what a chapter should be within PiKA. We know however that we are never

entitled to win. We can never sit back and expect to simply be rewarded with a Smythe because we are AK. We never "deserve" to win. We can only ever earn the win. That takes a tremendous amount of energy, time, and effort. Looking over the statistics of the Smythe Chapters in the last Shield and Diamond indicates that the criteria for winning is ever increasing. The community service hours, money raised for philanthropy, G.P.A., Athletic Rank, Chapter size, and Recruitment statistics shown for Smythe winning chapters is both intimidating and awesome. We have our work cut out for us if we are to stand shoulder to shoulder with the best chapters in PiKA — and we intend to do that. But, we know it's going to take a lot of work. We know that nobody really cares how hard we work, we know that they care whether or not we achieve. So, Achieve we will.



We don't want the Smythe trophies so we can simply fill up the cases in the library. The trophies are only symbols of a large group of men — bound together as brothers for life — who are high achievers and wish to excel. The trophies only symbolize the commitment that these men have for each other. The commitment that one man shows to another to work for his Brothers best interest. Our marvelous Alumni choose to give other younger men the same or better opportunities for personal growth, achievement, and life long relationships that we had; and have been so influential in our own lives.

That is why Alumni and Active alike give so much to AK and to PiKA. We all know how important it is in a young man's life. We know that to serve as a man of integrity with faithful adherence to the lessons of ppka will only reap rewards in our lives and in the lives of others who depend on us.

If they didn't know how important it was that they established AK long ago, I am sure that McTighe, Walker, Seltzer, Wright, Taggart, Jones, and Morgan discovered that they had done something very important. They would have known their decisions had far reaching consequences. And we have been so very fortunate that they did.

So, lives your lives in phi phi kappa alpha... you know the rest.

Your Friendly Neighborhood Chapter Advisor,

Ramsay



# Special Events

# homecoming

## S&T Homecoming 2010

By Jordan Wengler

The Pikes at Missouri S&T were able to secure first place in this year's Homecoming competition. The activities consisted of a number of challenges, such as several games, banner and



## Dad's Day

Alpha Kappa hosted a successful Dad's Day on October 23, 2010. The fathers and other family members were invited to the chapter house to come eat, socialize with the families of other brothers, and watch the scholarship presentation held by the Alpha Kappa Educational Foundation. After the scholarship presentation, sons and fathers participated in a golf tournament. Everyone had a great time and is looking forward to Mom's Day in the spring.



yard displays, as well as skits and contests. Ten organizations participated in these activities. The festivities took place over a week, and Alpha Kappa was able to pull ahead of the competition during the last event — a yard display. Thanks to the hard work of Special Events Chair Gregg Crannick and assistant Jeremy Bylo, as well as many other active and pledge assistants, the yard display a huge success and secured Alpha Kappa's victory. Both of AK's king and queen nominations, including our own Curtis McDonald, had the honor of being crowned 2010 Homecoming King and Queen, making Pi Kappa Alpha the overall victor for the competition.



For the 7th year in a row, Pi Kappa Alpha was the organization of Homecoming Royalty. Curtis McDonald (AK '07) was named Homecoming King 2010, and Kristyn Smith (Panhellenic President) was named Homecoming Queen. Both were Pike's candidates.

Pi Kappa Alpha won the 2010 Homecoming competition, for the 3rd time in 5 years.





# Community Service



*By Jordan Wengler*

Community service plays an important role in how the Alpha Kappa chapter gives back to the communities in which we work and live. Each year the chapter strives to complete at least ten thousand hours of community service, and so far we are well on our way to reaching this mark thanks to the efforts of Community Service Chair Brian Daming. Both the pledges and active chapter have attended 2 major service trips this semester – bringing our total community service

to almost five thousand hours. The first trip took place in Springfield, Missouri, where the chapter assisted Habitat for Humanity with many projects including painting houses and assisting with organizing and cleaning up. For the second trip, Pikes traveled to Potosi, Missouri to YMCA of the Ozarks. Here the brothers and pledges worked with many other individuals to clear new hiking trails and work on other miscellaneous projects. Through these activities, the Alpha Kappa chapter is able to give back to and help out our communities.



*Alpha Kappa placed first in this year's Linking Hearts Carnival, during which brothers served snow cones and put on games for children.*

# Greek Week

## Pi Kappa Alpha Rules Greek Week

By Jordan Wengler

The Alpha Kappa chapter took first place in this year's Greek Week competition under the direction of Special Events Chairman Gregg Crannick. Greek Week consists of a number of friendly competitions between Greeks, and is meant to celebrate Greek Life on campus. AK Pikes placed first in the float competition through the tireless efforts of many people. Thanks to all the hard work of the brothers and pledges alike, Alpha Kappa was able to attain its fourth consecutive Greek Week victory in a row.

Greek Week Godz



Brother Curt McDonald (AK '07) was honored as Hermes during Greek Week '10. This honor was achieved by serving as Special Projects Chair as a Junior Representative, where he was in charge of Greek Sing, as well as completely renovated the IFC website. He was then elected as President of IFC, which made him the second Pike President in three years. Brother Curt McDonald after being selected Hermes at GODZ elections commented, "Here's to the best week of my life, here's to Pi Kappa Alpha, here's to phi phi kappa alpha."



### IFC Representatives

IFC this year will be represented by senior rep Andrew Busby and junior rep Erik Hinze. After a first place victory in greek week Busby ran the games of greek week and has been just elected internal vice president the second highest executive position in IFC.



# Graduating Seniors

## May Commencement

On Saturday, May 15, 2010 twelve members of Alpha Kappa graduated from Missouri University of Science and Technology. These young men served Pi Kappa Alpha and the Missouri S&T campus in a variety of ways and to the fullest of their ability. We wish them the best of luck with their new endeavors and hope to see them serve as Alpha Kappa Alumni in years to come.



**Wade Aitken-Palmer** — Graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He played Varsity Soccer at Missouri S&T for 3 years. On campus, he was involved in Engineers Without Borders and served as the President, Vice President, and Fundraising Chair for ASME. He is planning to travel to South Africa and bike the Pacific Coast post graduation.



**Kenneth Eugene Baer** — Graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He served AK as Secretary, Intramurals Chairman, Correspondence Chairman, and was a Rush committee member. Baer played Club Volleyball for Missouri S&T for 5 years. On campus, he was a Student Ambassador, as well as involved in American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Students Today Alumni Tomorrow, and Gamma Alpha Delta. He is currently working with American Power Conversion in St. Louis, MO as a U.S. Product Manager.



**Jeffrey Burke** — Graduated with a degree in Chemical Engineering. On campus, he was involved in the American Institute of Chemical Engineers and served as Internal Vice President.



**Daniel Ryan (AK'06)** — Graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He served AK as SMC, 1st IMC, Rush Chair, and Secretary. On campus, he was involved in Student Council and St. Pat's Board, as well as serving as President of Blue Key and Theta Tau Omega. He is currently working with the Pi Kappa Alpha International Fraternity as a Chapter Consultant.



**Elliot Giles (AK'06)** — Graduated with a degree in Mining Engineering and a minor in Explosive Engineering. He served AK as Steward and Duties Chair. On campus, he was Special Sales Chair and Sales Manager for St. Pat's Board. He is currently working as a field engineer for Orica, USA, Inc.



**Joshua Heger (AK'06)** — Graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He served AK, 1st IMC, Rush Chair, Special Events Chair, and Undergraduate Chapter Advisor. On campus, he was Public Relations Chair and Strategic Relations Chair for Student Council and Vice President of Recruitment for Order of Omega. He is currently working for Accenture.



**Josh Kaltenbronn (AK'07)** — Graduated with a degree in Chemical Engineering. He served AK as SMC, 1st IMC, SC, and Special Events Chair. He is currently pursuing a master's degree in Chemical Engineering at Missouri S&T.



**Jeremiah Mohan** — Graduated with a degree in Nuclear Engineering. He served AK as House Manager Chairs (Steward) and Duties as well as Special Events Chairs (Greek Week and St. Pat's). On campus, he was involved in Missouri S&T BBQ Club, Missouri S&T Roller Hockey Club, and St. Pat's Celebration Committee and served as Vice-President of St. Pat's. He is currently working on his M.S. in Engineering Management.



**John Pettit** — Graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering with a business minor. He served AK as new member educator, 2nd vice president, and treasurer. On campus, he was involved in Pi Tau Sigma (ME honor society) ASME, and STAT and served as treasurer of ASME. He is currently working with Chevron as a Facilities Engineer in Bakersfield, California.



**Garrett Stevens** — Graduated with a degree in Engineering Management. He served AK as Intramurals Chair and Brotherhood Chair. On campus, he was involved with Engineers Without Borders and a member of the Missouri S&T Soccer Team. He currently works for Tenaris as a Technical Sales Engineer.



**Barret Von Behren** — Graduated with a degree in Chemical Engineering. He served AK as alumni relations chairman. On campus, he was involved in the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE), Omega Chi Epsilon (Chemical Engineering Honors Fraternity), Student Ambassadors and served as president of AIChE. He is currently working with Archer Daniels Midland (ADM) in Des Moines, Iowa as a Production Engineer in their Oilseeds Division.



**Matthew Wilson** — Graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He served AK as alumni relations chairman, THC, and Pledge Ed. On campus, he was involved in Pi Tau Sigma, ASME (President and Treasurer), and played varsity soccer. He is a mechanical engineer with Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company.



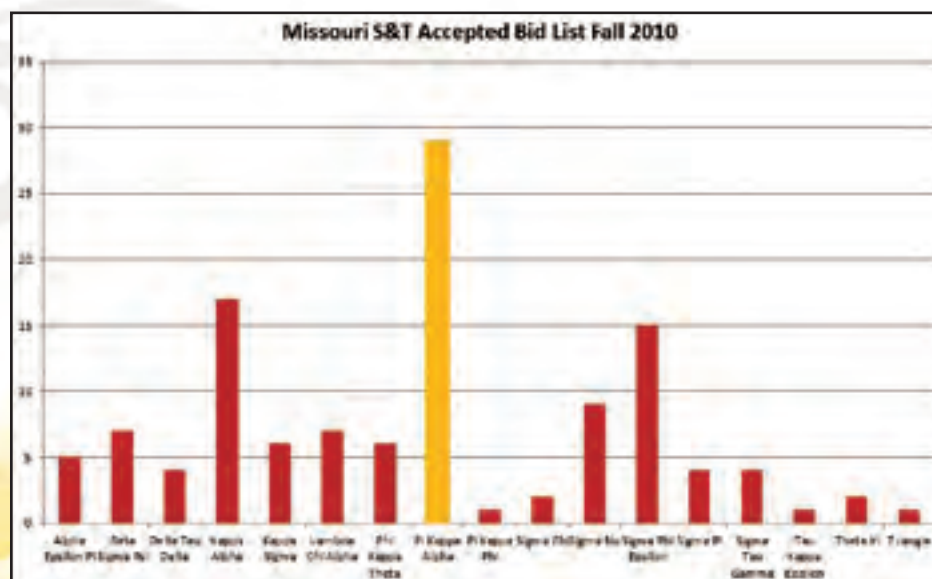
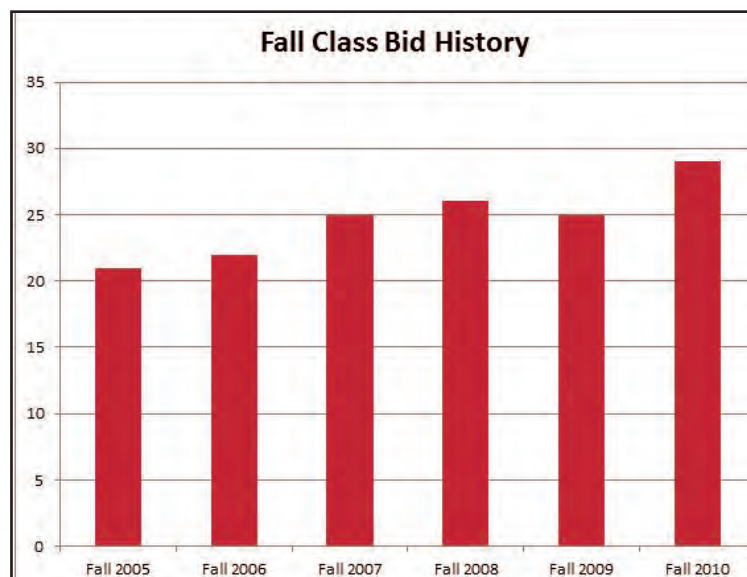
## Rush Continues to Prosper at AK

The Alpha Kappa Chapter had the most successful Fall Rush campaign in recorded history with an exceptional group of 29 new members for the fall 2010 pledge class. This was mainly due to the IFC names list, which included all incoming male freshmen, and the new recruitment structure which was redesigned last spring. This structure, led by Director of Recruitment Parth Shah (AK '09), and 4 Rush Chairmen, Brian Van Booven (AK '10), Andrew Terbrock (AK '09), Jon Goecker (AK '09), and Jacob Roth (AK '09); removed the stress that was put on just two members doing the majority of the work.

Last spring the recruitment team worked very hard at all of the PRO days, cold calling, and sorority presentations. This all proved successful with this incoming new member class. In the fall 2010 pledge class, there is one varsity football player, and three legacies. Pi Kappa Alpha came out on top again on campus in terms of pledge class size, by being the largest on campus; this put our house at its capacity of 105 men.

This semester we are focusing on a little bit of a smaller structure led by Curtis McDonald (AK '06) and Brian Van Booven (AK '10). There are also Rush Captains who were chosen by athletics on campus, such as the varsity football team, varsity soccer team, and Ultimate Frisbee Club.

The Rush Committee is also underway led by John Van Gels (AK '08) and Parth Shah (AK '09). This committee will be evaluating the new recruitment structure and continue to make improvements on the life blood of the fraternity. With the rush committee taking action it should continue to build upon the solid foundation that has been established.



**Want to help with Rush?**

*Do you know a high school senior or college transfer coming to Missouri S&T who would make an excellent Pike? Alpha Kappa would love to get your input to help bring only the best men to our Fraternity. Any tips will be actively pursued by our Rush Committee.*

### Contact

Our Rush Chairman:

Parth Shah  
parth.shah@mst.edu

# Chapter Spotlight

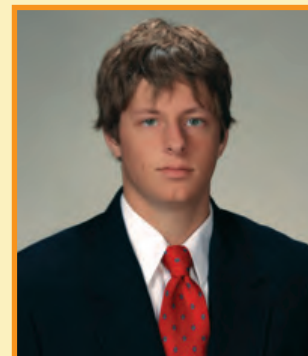
## Pike Legacies

By Jordan Wengler

Pi Kappa Alpha has been in existence for over 142 years, and throughout this time many young men have been initiated into our brotherhood and have shared the values PiKA teaches to their friends, family, nephews, sons, and countless more. In some cases, multiple members of one family have been initiated into Pi Kappa Alpha, whether it be father and son, uncle and nephew, brothers, etc. These relationships are known as Legacies, and at Alpha Kappa we now proudly have 13 Legacy individuals living in house.

Bonds like these truly show the powerful impact Pi Kappa Alpha has on individuals' lives.

Brothers Daming, Graff, Busby, McNamee, Gravlin, Rieger, Kecec, and Meglio, as well as pledges Corey Hale, Van Buren, Hiestand, Meyer, and Baer all have had ties to Pi Kappa Alpha through a family member. Although a majority are a father-son or uncle-nephew relationship, some of these individuals share their Legacy with a grandfather, cousin, or brother. Brother Meglio says, "It's a special bond I can appreciate with my father that not many people get to take part in." Bonds like these truly show the powerful impact Pi Kappa Alpha has on individuals' lives.



## Brother Ryan Recovers

Brother Ryan "Tex" Brunkhorst was forced to retreat to a hospital in his home state of Texas in February of 2009 after a blood test showed dangerously high levels of creatinine in his blood. He underwent surgery in April of 2009 in order to have a peritoneal dialysis port placed in his kidney. However, he returned to Rolla in Fall 2009 but could not live in the chapter house for sanitary reasons. In April 2010 Ryan was approved for a kidney transplant by SLU hospital in St. Louis, Missouri, and received a kidney from his father, Bill Brunkhorst, a month later. Ryan currently has had a completely successful post-transplant period for five months and is extremely active on campus. His illness has not deterred him from being Parent and Alumni Liaison, SIT Chair, and Treasurer for STUCO and Treasurer of Students Today Alumni Tomorrow (STAT). He has also been steward and a STUCO representative for Alpha Kappa. "My illness has given me a better sense of how important my time is here, and am no longer willing to take it for granted."





# Leadership

		<b>President</b> John Van Gels				
<b>External VP</b> Brian Phagan	<b>Internal VP</b> Parth Shah	<b>Treasurer</b> Matt Crinnian	<b>Secretary</b> Lucas Wessel	<b>House Manager</b> Sam Shaffer	<b>Pledge Educator</b> John Binz	<b>Director of Rush</b> Curt McDonald
<b>Campus Involvement</b> Tyler Effinger	<b>Alumni Relations</b> Brian Van Booven	<b>Assistant Treasurer</b> Doug Porter		<b>Steward</b> Nic Bouvatte	<b>Assistant Pledge Ed.</b> Fred Reineke	<b>Junior Rush Chair</b> Brian Van Booven
<b>Community Serv.</b> Dustin Hale	<b>Brotherhood</b> Altmann & Quiroz			<b>Assistant Steward</b> Troy Terrill		<b>Rush Captains</b> Nate Freeman Freddy Dugard David Kecec
<b>Correspondence</b> Brian Seawright	<b>Continuing Ed.</b> Nate Freeman			<b>Fix-It</b> Logan Gillespie		
<b>Intramurals</b> Dan Stokes	<b>Computers</b> Fred Reineke			<b>Duties</b> Hinze & Megl		
<b>Public Relations</b> Jordan Wengler	<b>Fundraising</b> Brian Daming			<b>Exterior</b> Adam Altmann		
<b>Social</b> Reed and Ewbank	<b>Historian</b> Marc Siebers					
<b>Sorority Relations</b> Chris Stocker	<b>Parent's Club</b> Andrew Plyler					
<b>Special Events</b> Greg Crannick	<b>Risk Manager</b> Blake Summers					
	<b>Scholarship</b> Kyle Sneed					





Executive Retreat held November XX, 2010. Pictured from left:

## Campus Involvement

### American Society of Mechanical Engineers

Sam Shaffer — President  
Kenny Gravlin — Vice President  
David Kecec — Treasurer  
Joseph Graff — Publications

### Blue Key Honor Society

Brian Phagan — Secretary  
Curtis McDonald  
John Van Gels  
Andrew Brune  
Parth Shah

### Future Business Leaders of America

Parth Shah — Recruitment Officer

### Interfraternity Council

Andrew Busby — Internal Vice President  
Eric Hinze — Publications

### Missouri S&T Lacrosse Club

Joseph Graff — President  
Tyler Effinger — Treasurer

### Missouri S&T Varsity Football

Freddy Dugard  
Jacob Nutt

### Missouri S&T Volleyball Club

John Wilson — President  
Ned Matuszak — Treasurer  
Adam Altmann — 1st Officer

### Order of Omega

Curtis McDonald — President  
Ryan O'Daniel  
John Van Gels

### Missouri S&T Varsity Soccer

Sam Shaffer — Captain  
Kenny Gravlin — Captain  
Nicholas Landon  
Brian Tucker  
Pat McNamee  
Kyle Sneed  
Ryan Muich  
Joe Jordan  
John Bilyeu  
Jonathan Goecker  
David Kecec  
Peter Haw  
Brian Seawright  
Mason Morawitz  
Jacob Kliewer  
Josh Bennett  
Kyle Schraier  
Caleb Collier

### St. Pat's Committee

Andrew Rasdall  
Mike Megl

### Student Council

Ryan Brunkhorst — Treasurer  
Fred Reineke — SIT Chair

### Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow

Kevin Laut — Vice President  
Ryan Brunkhorst — Treasurer  
Anthony Rieger — Secretary

### Student Union Board

Jordan Wengler  
Matt Whitwell  
Trenton Walters

# New Initiates and Pledges

## New Initiates

On August 28th, another initiation brought 16 new brothers into the bonds of phi phi kappa alpha at Alpha Kappa. The men completed their pledge-ship under the guidance of Matt Wilson (AK '07) and are excited to start another chapter in Pi Kappa Alpha.



## Pledge Class

*By John Binz*

The start of a new semester at Missouri S&T means a brand new group of young men moving in the Fraternity house. From the start, the Fall 2010 pledge class is an amazing group. We must first by recognizing the accomplishment of the Rush Chairs. They rushed the largest pledge class that I can remember and most likely the largest pledge class in the history of Alpha Kappa. After spending time with this new group of young men they continue to be amazing.

The beginning of the semester is spent teaching the new members the basics of fraternity life as well as how to become successful in the classroom. They were immediately immersed in the norms and values of the Fraternity. The pledge retreat was very successful and further cemented the identity and expectations of the Alpha Kappa chapter. After the crash course in Alpha Kappa many of these young men are stepping up looking for ways to contribute straightaway!



This is exactly the type of future leaders this chapter needs and furthers how amazing this pledge class is.

Soon the pledge class positions will be selected and their goals will be set. From there, they will learn to work as a team and grow into the future leaders of the Fraternity. I am very excited to get the opportunity to spend time and teach these young men what it takes to be great Pikes, leading to successful men.



# In Memory...

## Remembering Ted "Caleb" Waldbuesser

The brothers of the Alpha Kappa chapter experienced a great loss when fellow brother and friend Ted "Caleb" Waldbuesser passed away during the early morning of August 13th. Caleb graduated in December 2009 with a degree in petroleum engineering, and was immediately hired by Southwestern Energy Company where he had previously interned twice. Caleb was also an active member of Pi Kappa Alpha, serving as the Fundraising, Continuing Education, and Social Chair, and is remembered as being an active individual who gave back to his community and set a high standard at the age of 23. Caleb will be sorely missed, but loved and remembered even more by all of his brothers and friends that knew him.

### Memories of Caleb

*Written by the Spring 2006 Pledge Class of Alpha Kappa*

August 13th, 2010 was a devastating day for the members of our pledge class as we learned of the passing of our close friend and brother, Caleb Waldbuesser. The eight of us have been sharing thoughts and stories about Caleb since that tragic day, and we have decided to share a few thoughts to celebrate Caleb's short but successful life.

Caleb showed a curiosity and passion for the world. He was born and raised in the small town of Jasper in Southwest Missouri, and while he was eager to explore life in other areas of the state and country, he always maintained a respect for his upbringing and showed great care for his family. In fact, when Caleb's younger sister began school at Missouri State in Springfield, he went to great lengths to ensure that her transition to college life was smooth.

Caleb's work ethic was unrivaled. When we spoke with him during his internships at Southwestern Energy, he would describe his 70- to 80-hour work weeks as challenging, but never with a complaint or a hint of disdain. We recalled cleanup of the chapter house when our job was to remove any scuff marks from the walls in the hallways. There were some marks that none of us could remove, and we were convinced they were permanent. Caleb thought otherwise and told us that with a little "elbow grease", the marks could be removed — along with a large amount of paint from the wall. Giving up was simply never an option for Caleb, no matter the circumstances.

We fondly remember the origin of "Shortcut," one of Caleb's many nicknames. Caleb had a bit of a heavy foot while driving around town and was frequently convinced that he had discovered shortcuts to various places around Rolla. For us, the classic example of this was his shortcut from the chapter house to the Rolla Wal-Mart. Since the half-mile direct route down Bishop Avenue was not

quick enough for Caleb, he tried to convince us that taking his shortcut on side streets would get us to Wal-Mart faster. He may have been correct, but while trying to prove it to us, he was stopped at a railroad crossing for five minutes by a passing train.

Caleb continuously strived to better himself personally and scholastically while remaining genial and caring for the people around him. Like a true gentleman, Caleb always took great care to ensure that guests at the chapter house were relaxed and comfortable. He constantly made certain that his actions reflected positively on both the Fraternity's reputation and his own character. In a fraternity where a large amount of community service work is expected from all of its members, Caleb managed to find a way to lead nearly all Alpha Kappa members in both the amount and quality of work in the community. After his graduation, Caleb remained active in the community by helping to organize and attend Habitat for Humanity work days with the Pi Kappa Alpha chapter at the University of Central Arkansas.

As Caleb's pledge brothers and some of his closest friends, we have what seems like an endless supply of memories of Caleb. We will remember him as a hard worker, a great Pike, an elite weightlifter, a questionable driver, and caring friend. We will greatly miss his deep voice, his bear hugs, his stubbornness, his goofy laugh, and his warming smile. We count ourselves blessed to have known Caleb, and we know that because of his contributions, the fire of Pi Kappa Alpha burns a little brighter.

### Memorial Scholarship

The Waldbuesser family and the Spring 2006 pledge class are in the preliminary stages of establishing a memorial scholarship in Caleb's name through the Miner Alumni Association. Friends of Caleb who are interested in preserving his memory by contributing to the scholarship fund should contact Wade Aitken-Palmer at [wja313@gmail.com](mailto:wja313@gmail.com) or Steve Grelle at [svgrelle@gmail.com](mailto:svgrelle@gmail.com).



# International Convention

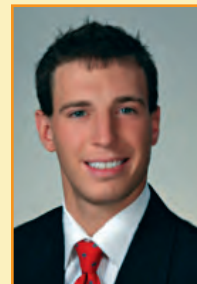
The 2010 Pi Kappa Alpha International Convention was once again a time for celebration for the men of Alpha Kappa. The chapter's reputation for excellence in all areas of its programming was strengthened with numerous recognitions and awards from the International Fraternity. Alpha Kappa received acknowledgements for 100% membership participation in the phi phi kappa alpha club, a 25+ man commitment to the Pike University leadership summit program, and an award for excellence in scholarship. Despite the even spread of cornerstone awards at this year's convention, Alpha Kappa also received the award for Division 1 athletics. In addition to these awards and recognitions, the chapter was presented with the Raymond L. Orians Excellence Award. While Alpha Kappa is proud of these recognitions, the chapter was most happy to receive the Robert Adger Smythe award as well as the House of the Year award. For the seventh year in a row, Alpha Kappa was presented with the Robert Adger Smythe award, the highest achievement a chapter in Pi Kappa Alpha can obtain. This award brings the total to 19 Smythe awards in the history of Alpha Kappa. The House of the Year award, an award given to the chapter with the most outstanding physical chapter house, was given to the chapter for the third time in \_\_\_\_ years. The convention was a success for the chapter in all areas from scholarship to athletics and Alpha Kappa continued to fill the position of flagship chapter for Pi Kappa Alpha.



## Fostering a Lifelong Fraternal Experience — Helping PIKE across the country

*I have the unique opportunity to serve PIKE as a chapter consultant during this 2010–2011 academic year. This experience has already taken me to numerous campuses with PIKE chapters across the country. Through these travels, I have come to the realization of just how fortunate Alpha Kappa is to receive great alumni support. This factor can make tremendous difference for the overall success and development of a chapter as well as its members. Thus, it should come as no surprise that many chapters do not receive this type of support, which brings me to my point. Even though we have left Missouri S&T and our undergraduate experience at Alpha Kappa is complete, there is no reason why our fraternal experience with PIKE should end. The International Fraternity has over 220 chapters and over 100 alumni groups that allow for alumnus members to stay engaged with PIKE and help develop numerous undergraduates. We need to remember that not every chapter has a positive fraternity experience like we have had at Alpha Kappa. We would be doing our brothers a disservice across North America if we did not reach out to them and help them learn how to offer a great undergraduate fraternal experience.*

*In the bonds,  
Daniel Ryan (AK '10)*



*For more information on how to help the International Fraternity, please visit [www.pikes.org](http://www.pikes.org).*

## Nominating Committee

One of the highlights of the 2010 International Convention was the selection of undergraduate students to serve on the Nominating Committee for the 2010 International Convention. Pi Kappa Alpha offers the unique opportunity for two student member chapter delegates to serve on the Nominating Committee along with three alumnus members. The Executive Vice President, Justin Buck, appointed the two students asked to serve on the committee. Brother John Van Gels (AK '08) had the honor of being elected as one of the two undergraduates ask to serve out of all pike undergrads nationwide. With long hours of countless interviews, brother Van Gels had the honor of giving a speech during the convention and put into nomination Matthew Forest to serve as one of the Supreme Council Vice Presidents. Matt Forest is from Iota Mu chapter from Southern Illinois, and initiated in 1994.



# Intramurals

With the recruitment of such a great pledge class, Pi Kappa Alpha's athletic future has never looked brighter. Intramural Chairman Dan Stokes (AK 08') is extremely confident in the new athletic group of young men and looks forward to seeing their success both on and off the field. After an extreme amount of athletic success in Greek Week the Pikes continue to surge forward and push each other to perform at their best in sense of the word.

After a disheartening first game loss to ASCE in softball, the Pikes rallied back to go undefeated the rest of the season. Outscoring their opponents 134-21 the Pikes were a dominate force in the league and won the championship handily. Steve Rothermich (AK 0, who has lead the Pikes to what is now their 5th championship in a row, played a vital role in leading what was another great season.

With a limited number of players able to participate in the Ultimate Frisbee tournament, the Pike Frisbee athletes overcame great adversity to battle into a semi final spot. With just minutes left in a tied quarter final game, the Pikes were exhausted and down to there last hope. A long toss by Nate Freeman found its way to a leaping Joe Graff (AK 08') in the end zone to make the winning catch against all odds. They went on to get 4th place and increase their overall placement.

Realizing that there is a long road ahead to get back into 1st place, setting up rosters for swimming was an extremely important task, but with the drive and willingness displayed in practices by the young men of Alpha Kappa it made my job of choosing the best fit team very easy. Nate Freeman (AK 10') lead the way with a 1st place finish in the 50 yard freestyle and also lead the 200 yard freestyle and Medley relay teams to 2nd place finishes.

With one win already under our belts in Football, the season looks very hopefully. Alex VanDeven (AK 08') is leading the team as quarter back and the defense this year looks unbeatable. The strength and determination of the Pike team is undeniable as everyone knows the importance each game has on our overall chances of winning intramurals for the 10th straight time.

With upcoming Volleyball being the last remaining major sport of the fall season, the Pikes are amped up and ready to recapture another championship. With the leadership of graduate student John Binz (AK 04') and all but one player from last year returning, the Volleyball team will once again be a top contender for the championship trophy.

The young men of Alpha Kappa are extremely excited and optimistic about its chances of capturing yet another intramural title. This confidence, however, comes also with the realization of the hard work that is still necessary to make the desire a reality. We at Pi Kappa Alpha continue to motivate ourselves and our fellow brothers to dig within and compete at a higher level, thus excelling above the rest. Only then can we truly call ourselves champions.



*PiKA Football*



*PiKA Softball Champs*



*PiKA Swimming*

# Brotherhood

## Football!

The weekend of October 22nd, 2010 was designated as Alpha Kappa's brotherhood weekend. During these few days, events were planned to help bring everyone together and strengthen the bonds of brotherhood. One of these events was the annual pledge versus active football game, where most of the active chapter and pledges gathered across the street in the intra-mural fields to play football for most of the afternoon.



## Float Trip 2010!

The gentlemen of Pi Kappa Alpha took the Huzzah Valley Resort by storm at the annual float trip. The bonds of brotherhood were tightened as 33 Alpha Kappa members were in attendance. The morning float followed by an afternoon powernap led to an evening full of shooting the breeze around the fire.



*Big Brother Night*



## Sack Lunch-a-thon

*By Jordan Wengler*

For the second year in a row, Alpha Kappa has conducted its very own "Sack Lunch-a-thon." The fundraiser took place under the supervision of Curt McDonald, who worked many hours to make this year's event a success. Members of the Alpha Kappa chapter went around to area businesses selling sack lunches for \$5 apiece. Customers had their choice of turkey, ham, or roast beef sandwiches, and all of the lunches included chips, cookies, and fruit. Approximately 450 bags were made up and distributed to area businesses on Tuesday, October 26th. All the proceeds of this year's Sack Lunch-a-thon will go to the Friday Backpack Program — a service designed to help feed children from low-income families. Many AK Pikes worked on this year's Sack Lunch-a-thon and helped make it an overwhelming success.





# Alumni News

## Homecoming

Homecoming 2010 was during the weekend of October 1–3, 2010. During this time, many alumni returned to visit the Missouri S&T campus as well as the Alpha Kappa chapter house. Many Pikes received distinguished awards from the chapter as well as the university. Bill Oberbeck, Sr. received the Robert V. Wolf Alumni Award and Ryan Howell and Patricia Spence, wife of Dale Spence, both received the Distinguished Young Alumni Award. We send our congratulations to all of the awardees!



## OGS Weekend

Thanks to the many alumni of not only this chapter, but also of MSM-UMR-MS&T, hundreds of students receive scholarships that enable them to attend MS&T. Many alumni continue supporting their alma mater through a yearly donation, an endowed scholarship, or by joining the Order of the Golden Shillelagh (OGS).

The Order of the Golden Shillelagh is a group of especially dedicated alumni that pledge to donate at least ten thousand dollars to Missouri S&T. OGS was founded in 1977 by 27 donors that realized that without private support, Missouri S&T would have difficulty maintaining its high quality education. OGS offers ten levels of recognition, called claghns. These levels are based on lifetime giving, including pledges, corporate matching, and deferred gifts.

Every April, member's gifts are recognized and new members are inducted. This past April, a record number of new members were inducted, three of

which were active members of Alpha Kappa: Daniel Ryan ('06), Lance Weinmann ('06), and Micah Weber ('07). These three men were welcomed into OGS by five other PiKA members including Chris Ramsay, Keith Wedge, Perrin Roller, Dale Spence, and Jim Van Buren. The weekend included golf, lunches, and the induction banquet on Saturday night.



# Alumni Profile

## Meet Jim Van Buren

Jim attended Rolla from 1959-1963 and is the father of Ty Van Buren, Todd Van Buren, and grandfather of Andrew Van Buren. He is a proud member of Alpha Kappa's Alumni Association and is eager to be involved in future AK affairs.

Jim Van Buren first attended college at Northwestern University where he was initiated into Pi Kappa Alpha at the Gamma Rho chapter in January 1959. He subsequently transferred to Rolla to attend Missouri School of Mines in September of 1959 after he became interested in pursuing an engineering degree. During his time at Rolla, he also participated in the ROTC program. After graduating with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Rolla in June of 1963, he was hired by an engineering firm known as Sverdrup and Parcel. After a few short months with the company, the United States Army called on him to serve in the Vietnam War in November of 1963, and he served there for two years. Upon returning to the United States in 1965, he was rehired by Sverdrup and Parcel. However, Jim decided to further his education by obtaining a master's degree in civil engineering at UMR, and soon after that obtained a master's degree in engineering administra-



tion at George Washington University in 1976. Jim moved to northern Virginia and began working on various projects in the Washington D.C. area including the Fort McHenry Tunnel and the



Northeast Corridor Rail Program. After completing these projects, Jim moved to St. Louis in 1981 and later became vice president of Missouri Department of Transportation. While in St. Louis, he also served as the President of the Engineers Club from 1999-2000, President of the Missouri Consulting Engineers Council in 2000, and vice president of the Civil Engineering Academy of Missouri University of Science and Technology.

## John Roscoe Pfitzer

John Roscoe Pfitzer, 82, of Tulsa Oklahoma, passed away at his home on Friday morning, the sixth day of August 2010. Visitation was at Fitzgeralds Ivy Chapel on Monday evening and services were held on Tuesday, August 10, 2010, at First Presbyterian Church in Tulsa by the Reverend Rick Davis.

John was born in Auxvasse, Missouri, the second son of Erma Summerville and Roscoe C. Pfitzer, in June 1928. At an early age he became a member of the Presbyterian Church of Auxvasse. In his youth he attended Auxvasse and Mexico, Missouri public schools. He graduated with an engineering degree from Missouri School of Mines, University of Missouri Science & Technology in 1950. He served two years with the U.S. Army in the Korean War. He began his career as a project engineer and worked for sixteen years with Great Lakes Pipeline Company of Kansas City and then moved to Tulsa to work with Crest Engineering as a petroleum engineer. He worked for Crest Engineering for twenty-two years and retired as vice president. Of keen mind and sharp wit, he enjoyed



his life in Tulsa, art and music, traveling with his family, and was always interested in his children's sports. After his retirement he owned and operated Handyman Rental & Supply in Cleveland for sixteen years. He spent many years enjoying his livestock and ranch in Pawnee County. His unconditional love and dedication to his family, combined with his grand sense of humor, kindness and patience, high values and good

character, all leave a wonderful legacy.

He leaves his wife, Sharon of 53 years; daughter, Tambrey Pfitzer, of Salt Lake City; son, Timothy John Pfitzer, of Keller, Texas, and wife, Melissa; daughter, Katherine Newman and her husband, Richard O. Newman II, of Houston, Texas; six grandchildren, Benjamin, Leah, Ty and John II and Amber and Collin Newman. He leaves his sister-in-law, Wilhelmina Pfitzer of Saint Louis, Missouri, and nieces and nephews. Preceding him were his brother, August Pfitzer, his nephew, Marc Pfitzer, and his parents.

Graveside service and military honors were August 11, 2010, at Grace-land Cemetery in Cameron, Missouri.



# Alumni News & Updates

## PiKA Golf Outing

The St. Louis Alpha Kappa Alumni golf tournament took place this May at Sugar Creek Country Club just outside of St. Louis. The scramble started off on a beautiful morning with a shotgun start and concluded with a BBQ lunch and awards at noon. Thirty two Pike alumni were in attendance from a wide range of years and chapters. All of the brothers enjoyed having a little friendly competition and are looking forward to the next year's tournament with even more brothers in attendance.



## Grapes and Grains 2010

The eighth annual Pi Kappa Alpha Grains and Grapes BBQ was held on September 25, 2010 at the home of Al and Joan Wentz in Edwardsville, Illinois. Many PiKA alumni attended and enjoyed a smoked turkey, BBQ spare ribs, a smoked pork loin and a variety of side dishes. The event was highlighted by the commemorative cake provided by Marv Ringer. The next Grains and Grapes BBQ date will be September 24, 2011 in Edwardsville. All PiKA alumni are invited to attend.



# Save the date!

## The Chapter House is 10!

The brothers of Alpha Kappa invite you to participate in the chapter house's 10th Anniversary! The new chapter house was built in 2001 due to the generous donations and help from AK alumni. Now is the chance to visit and see how the chapter has grown and improved in the last ten years. It is also a great time to meet other AK alumni and reunite with old friends.

*Hope to see you there!*

## Wedding Announcements

**Adam Wolf** married Alexandra Marie Miller on August 28th, 2010 at Wine Country Gardens in Defiance, Missouri.

**Jeff Busby** and Kelsey Christine Hall (pictured below) are planning a May 2011 wedding.



# Scholastic Awards

## Scholarships Awarded at Dad's Day, October 23, 2010

Over \$XX,000 was presented in scholarships and awards to undergraduate members of Alpha Kappa Chapter this past October during Dad's Day. Seventy-six awards were given to fifty-one different members for scholastic achievement and leadership. Scholastic awards totaled \$X,XXX; leadership

awards totaled \$X,XXX; and memorial and alumni awards totaled over \$XX,XXX. These awards would not be possible without the continuing generous financial support from our alumni.



*The Alpha Kappa  
Officer Awards Recipients*



*The Alpha Kappa 3.8 - 4.0  
Scholarship Recipients*



*The Alpha Kappa Wentz  
Leadership Award Recipients*

### Scholastic Awards

#### 3.8 - 4.0

Peter Haw  
Stephen Bostic  
Andrew Brune  
Tyler Effinger  
Joseph Graff  
David Kekec  
Jacob Kliewer  
Kevin Laut

John Muich  
Brian Phagan  
Parth Shah  
Marc Siebers  
Brian Van Booven

#### 3.5 - 3.79

Caleb Collier  
Joshua Bennett  
Chris Freeman  
Kenneth Gravlin  
Curtis McDonald  
Patrick McNamee  
Matthew Meglio  
Mason Morawitz

Peter Vaccaro  
Sterling Price  
Jorge Quiroz  
Fredrick Reineke  
Kyle Sneed  
John Van Gels  
Alex VanDeven  
Matthew Whitwell

#### 3.2 - 3.49

Andrew Bignall  
Michael Heise  
Joseph Jordan  
Nicholas Landon  
Ryan O'Daniel  
John Wilson

#### Alumni Awards

##### Charles Wentz, jr.

**Chemical Eng. Award**  
Nicholas Windhorst  
Kyle Sneed

##### Charles Wentz, Jr. Leadership Award

Curtis McDonald  
John Van Gels  
Andrew Busby  
Brian Phagan

##### Spence Award

Anthony Rieger

##### Miller Award

Nicholas Bouvatte

##### Latzer Award

Brett Gaumond

##### Gund Award

Kevin Antrobus

##### Grimm Award

Fredrick Reineke  
Andrew Brune  
Blake Summers  
Joseph Graff

##### Bauer Award

Andrew Busby  
Lucas Wessel  
Parth Shah

##### Myers/Colombatto Award

Curtis McDonald

##### Alyea Award

Dustin Hale

##### Roller Award

Fredrick Dugard

#### Memorial Awards

##### Wolf Award

John Van Gels

##### Thompson Award

Brian Phagan

##### Rippert Award

Andrew Bignall

##### Morgan Award

David Kekec  
Peter Haw

##### Hubbard Award

David Kekec  
Peter Haw

##### Kruger Award

Andrew Terbrock

##### Intramural Athlete Award

Matthew Meglio

##### Frisbee Award

Ryan O'Daniel

##### Gevecker Award

Ryan Paul  
Trevor Becherer  
Andrew VanBuren  
Jacob Colter  
Adam McDonell

##### Drebes Award

Nicholas Landon

#### Leadership Awards

##### Officer Awards

Brian Phagan  
Andrew Busby  
Nicholas Landon  
John Van Gels  
Curtis McDonald

##### Rush Captain Awards

Daniel Ryan  
Parth Shah



# Scholarships

## Continuation of the Alpha Kappa Scholarship Program

Alumni who received scholarships during their tenure as undergraduates from the Alpha Kappa Scholarship Program from inception to Spring Semester 2007 were acknowledged in the past seven issues of the Kapers. This addition of the Kapers will span the years from Fall Semester 2007–Spring Semester 2008.

As always, a detailed explanation of the aforementioned scholarships begin on page 265 “Alpha Kappa Educational Foundation Appendix” of A History of the Pi Kappa Alpha Chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha, Rolla, MO, 1905–2005.

## Alpha Kappa Scholarship Program

Fall Semester 2007 —Spring Semester 2008

### 2007 – Fall Semester

Derek Pelate – ThC  
Ryan Hiestand – SMC  
Lance Weinmann – SC  
Andrew Reitter –  
    Pledge Educator  
Andrew Binz – House Manager  
Benjamin Schnurbusch – 2nd IMC  
Adam Daniel – 1st IMC  
Alex Mear – Rush Captain  
Thomas Graff – Rush Captain  
Jerel Bernasek – Rush Captain  
Kenneth Baer – Rush Captain  
Curtis McDonald – Rush Captain  
Joshua Kaltenbronn – Wentz  
Jeffrey Burke – Wentz  
Caleb Waldbuesser – Spence  
Michael Hayes – Miller  
Charles Chappell – Miller  
John Pettit – Latzer  
Micah Weber – Gund  
Jeremy Schlosser – Grimm  
Andrew Reitter – Grimm  
Gregory Miller – Grimm  
Ryan Eller – Bauer  
Andrew Binz – Bauer  
Jerel Bernasek – Bauer  
Stephen Grelle – Bauer  
Charles Blaschke – Bauer  
Evan Stevens – Alyea  
Ryan Eller – Wolf  
Lance Weinmann – Thompson  
Nicholas Landon – Rippert  
Brett Gaumond – Rippert  
Nicholas Montesana – Morgan  
Daniel Ryan – Kruger  
Joel Schrenk – Kruger  
Lucas Rottler – Kruger  
William Kirby – Kruger  
Nathan Doubleddee – IM Athlete  
Lucas Rottler – IM Athlete

Matthew Wilson – Hubbard  
Brian Daming – Gevecker  
Gregg Crannick – Gevecker  
Matthew Wilson – Gevecker  
Aditya Sharma – Gevecker  
Mitchell Jones – Gevecker  
Andrew Parrish – Gevecker  
Andrew Brune – Gevecker  
Kaleb Hoffman – Gevecker  
Stephen Bostic – Gevecker  
David Hill – Frisbee  
Stephen Grelle – Drebes  
Andrew Reitter – 3.8  
Ryan Eller – 3.8  
Stephen Grelle – 3.8  
Nicholas Montesana – 3.8  
Matthew Wilson – 3.8  
Joel Schrenk – 3.8  
Charles Blaschke – 3.8  
Daniel Gravlin – 3.8  
Jeffrey Burke – 3.8  
Evan Stevens – 3.8  
Ryan O’Daniel – 3.5  
Daniel Roth – 3.5  
Joshua Young – 3.5  
Andrew Held – 3.5  
Lance Weinmann – 3.5  
Brian Tucker – 3.5  
Thomas Graff – 3.5  
Brandon Moore – 3.5  
Nicholas Landon – 3.5  
Elliott Giles – 3.5  
Colin Douthit – 3.5  
Jon Miller – 3.5  
Joseph Roth – 3.5  
Benjamin Schnurbusch – 3.5  
William Cacheris – 3.5  
Curtis McDonald – 3.5  
Kevin Post – 3.5  
Micah Weber – 3.2  
Thomas Lawton – 3.2

Kevin Laut – 3.2  
Ian Miller – 3.2  
Jerel Bernasek – 3.2  
John Pettit – 3.2  
Michael McNamee – 3.2  
Jason Kath – 3.2  
Joshua Kaltenbronn – 3.2  
Wade Aitken-Palmer – 3.2  
Jeremiah Mohan – 3.2  
Lucas Rottler – 3.2  
Kenneth Baer – 3.2  
Brett Gaumond – 3.2  
Jason Daming – 3.2  
Andrew Binz – 3.2  
Nicholas Banes – 3.2  
Fredrick Reineke – 3.2  
Stephen Rothermich – 3.2  
Eric Dixon – 3.2  
Christopher Zerr – 3.2  
Neil Fehr – 3.2  
Jared Hellebusch – 3.2  
Drew Rothermich – 3.2

### 2008 – Spring Semester

Jerel Bernasek – ThC  
Charles Blaschke – SMC  
Daniel Ryan – SC  
Robert Lichtenberg –  
    Pledge Educator  
Joel Schrenk – House Manager  
Andrew Arnold – 2nd IMC  
Stephen Grelle – 1st IMC  
Gregg Crannick – Rippert  
Kaleb Hoffman – Rippert  
Gregg Crannick – Hubbard  
Gregg Crannick – 3.8  
Ryan Eller – 3.8  
Daniel Gravlin – 3.8  
Stephen Grelle – 3.8  
Nicholas Montesana – 3.8

Brandon Moore – 3.8  
Andrew Reitter – 3.8  
Brian Tucker – 3.8  
Matthew Wilson – 3.8  
Michael Schroer – 3.8  
Joshua Young – 3.8  
William Kirby – 3.8  
Andrew Brune – 3.5  
Joel Schrenk – 3.5  
Brian Daming – 3.5  
Stephen Bostic – 3.5  
Alex Mear – 3.5  
Andrew Huebner – 3.5  
Jeffrey Busby – 3.5  
Brandon Shipman – 3.5  
Lance Weinmann – 3.5  
Jason Kath – 3.5  
Fredrick Reineke – 3.5  
Thomas Lawton – 3.5  
William Cacheris – 3.2  
Jason Daming – 3.2  
Aaron Gowdy – 3.2  
Nicholas Landon – 3.2  
Garrett McCarthy – 3.2  
Joshua Kaltenbronn – 3.2  
Ryan O’Daniel – 3.2  
James Pendergrass – 3.2  
Kaleb Hoffman – 3.2  
Charles Hasseldiek – 3.2  
Kevin Laut – 3.2  
Clinton Galaske – 3.2  
Jon Miller – 3.2  
Brian Amsler – 3.2  
Brandon Cundiff – 3.2  
Christopher Dishon – 3.2  
Nathan Doubleddee – 3.2  
Colin Douthit – 3.2  
Andrew Held – 3.2  
Afif Najjar – 3.2  
Timothy Neff – 3.2  
Evan Stevens – 3.2

## John "Pierre" Powell Retires

John "Pierre" Powell is currently the President of PAMCO Investments Corporation. PAMCO is an Oil & Gas Investment company started by his father, Alfred R. Powell, also an Alpha Kappa – Pi Kappa Alpha member since 1958. Pierre took this position in 2008, after retiring from the US Air Force, as a Colonel, and from the position of Vice-Commander of US Air Forces in Afghanistan.

Pierre — I entered Pi Kappa Alpha — Alpha Kappa chapter as a legacy of four Powell's in front of me. Joe Powell ('52 CE) — 2nd Cousin, Virgil Lee Powell ('57 PE) — Uncle, Alfred Ray Powell ('62 PE) – Father, and Michael Powell ('84 PE) — Cousin. Although I was considering following their legacy with a Petroleum Engineering degree, I secretly harbored a desire to fly military aircraft, and switched my major to Aerospace Engineering while applying for an Air Force ROTC Pilot Scholarship during the first few months of school.

*My most vivid memory remains sitting in the basement of the Pentagon, with the Air Force Chief of Staff, watching CNN when the World Trade Center was attacked.*

I think I lived 10 years during my 4 years at Rolla. I held multiple positions in the fraternity, including pledge class president and recording secretary, as well as historian and other committee responsibilities. Like all of us, the fraternity encouraged involvement in extracurricular activities and intramurals, beyond just academics. Through my brother's mentorship, I learned the importance of serving others while maintaining personal

balance (mentally, emotionally, spiritually, and physically). I also learned that nothing is impossible if you set your goals forward, draw a plan and persist. Ultimately, the fraternity

propelled me into my Air Force career and prepared me for a adventure filled career.

Leaving Rolla, I attended Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training and was selected to fly the RF-4C Phantom II aircraft in Germany and then into Desert Storm. It was an amazing time to be in Germany. One day I was flying Reconnaissance missions along the East German border and a few months later I was flying formation with East German MiG-29 fighters (after the reunification of Germany and the fall of the Berlin wall).

During that year, my unit was selected to fly Reconnaissance out of Turkey during Desert Storm. The US Air Force hadn't participated in major military combat for 20 years, and we were all a little nervous. I just remember my WSO (my backseater) yelling "higher, faster, higher, faster." We were fortunate to survive a few close calls and were awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for finding our targets with a degraded aircraft under heavy AAA fire.

Desert Storm success soon led to a national "Peace Dividend" and as many bases were closed, I was farmed out to the California Air National Guard for a year (a unit reknown for flying with Dean Martin Jr.). As that unit transitioned from fighters, I moved to New Mexico to teach Taiwan student fighter fundamentals. In 1995, I prepared to leave the Air Force, and my commander offered me the opportunity to fly an F-15 in Europe. Needless to say, soon I was stationed in England, flying the F-15C all over Europe and North Africa; and committed to a military career.

The highlight of this tour was to host the Battle of Britain Veterans ("the few") in a ceremony honoring their service. As the host, I was invited to participate in the Battle of Britain religious service held at Westminster Abbey, and attend by Prince Charles. A wonderful time surrounded by warriors and heroes that save England from Nazi invasion.

Following England, I attended a year long command course and was sent to the Pentagon. While diligently staffing away, my old office mate from England was sent to Bosnia to sup-



# Scholarships



port Kosovo. While protection the Bosnian border, he ended up engaging and shooting down two Serbian MiG-29s, wow! It made me really appreciate my staff job at the Pentagon (not really).

During my Pentagon tour, I was a country director of foreign military sales to Saudi Arabia and then worked as an Aide to the Secretary of the Air Force. One of my more exciting responsibilities was to ensure that all Saudi Air Force software systems purchased from the US were Y2K compliant. The Saudi's didn't want to fly these aircraft during the 2000 new years.

These jobs were exiting and challenging, helping me truly understand the challenges of a large bureaucratic government. My most vivid memory remains sitting in the basement of the Pentagon, with the Air Force Chief of Staff, watching CNN when the World Trade Center was attacked. Terrorists using commercial aircraft as weapons, and I'm sitting in the Pentagon in the world's greatest Air Force thinking and we should be doing something. Needless to say, we were quickly doing something by evacuating the Pentagon a few minutes later. The next day, after whipping the char off my desk, I started staffing away. Didn't want the terrorist to think they had halted the endless iterations of Pentagon staff work...

After the compulsory staff tour, I went back to flying F-15s in Europe. Unfortunately, with age came command and command came responsibility. I became a squadron commander of a unit which supported base operations. This job sent me to Turkey to prepare a base for the Operation Iraqi Freedom. After six weeks of preparations, the Turkish parliament voted not to support the war, and I high tailed it back to England. It was interesting that this time around, the Iraqi Air Force buried its Air Force, rather than engage us.

I was then promoted to Colonel, during my 17th year in the military, and rewarded with a 1 year tour at the John F Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, to spend a year studying political science and public leadership. This wonderful tour was followed by a trip to Southern Virginia to prepare the Congressional input to the long-range budget for our fighter/bomber forces. Although not something I would have choose to do, I quickly learned that the politics of finance is the ultimate engine for mission capability. Something I appreciate more as a civilian.

From Virginia to Florida, I was responsible for the maintenance and logistics for 54 F-15 fighters, followed by a tour as the Vice-Commander of Air Forces in Afghanistan. I was stationed at Bagram AB, in Northern Afghanistan, surrounded by 16,000 foot mountains and fairly harsh conditions. This tour was a wonderful culmination of my military career. Afghanistan remains a quagmire at many levels, but I truly appreciated the dedication of our and their military forces, and impressive seeing them trying to do everything they could to create peace and stability.

Finally, leaving the military, I find myself in a similar position as many of you. I am still transitioning from service to finding a position with passion and purpose in my new role as a civilian. I will complete an Executive MBA Program at Kellogg at Northwestern University in early December. I am excited about the opportunity to work with my father while using my military talents to create value in the civilian sector.

The road to success requires a lot of what you are learning in the classrooms but equally what your are learning at PiKA about developing strong core values to guide you in your job, your dreams and with your family, all of which are critical to ultimate success. I've had a wonderful career, so far, and am thankful for the boost from my brothers and the values of PiKA.

— Pierre Powell

## Alpha Kappa Receives House of the Year Award

For the third(????) time in XXX years, the Alpha Kappa chapter house was selected as the House of the Year by the international fraternity. In announcing this award the international office of Pi Kappa Alpha wrote, "It still looks like they moved in yesterday. A big reason for this is that the Chapter and House Corporation have a House Operations Manual that provides scheduled guidance on the management of the facility. Other Chapters are utilizing it for their housing program, and it is the benchmark among all Pi Kappa Alpha chapters."



To be considered "the benchmark among all Pi Kappa Alpha chapters" is indeed a high honor. To earn this honor the following criteria were considered. The meeting of operations standards such as market rental rates, written agreements between the Active Chapter and the House Corporation with a flat rate that is not based on the level of occupancy and the requirement that all members live in the house. Other factors include the appearance of both the interior and exterior of house as well as cleanliness of all aspects of the chapter house.

The meeting and exceeding of these criteria is a joint responsibility of all four of the Alpha Kappa entities. The House Corporation (HC) has the primary responsibility for providing a "like new" condition prior to the start of each academic year. (Elsewhere in this issue you can learn what improvements and repairs were completed this summer.) During the course of the year, the Active Chapter's (AC) House Manager and his various committees report any areas needing repairs to the HC director who has the assignment of working with the AC and repair companies to provide a prompt resolution to the problem. The HC also continually communicates with the AC on requests for overall improvements such as the improved video security system installed recently. As landlord, the HC establishes a market based rent which the AC pays prior to the beginning of each semester. This rent is fixed regardless of the level of occupancy. This policy helps ensure that the AC seeks to have a full house each semester. A similar policy

states that no member may live out of the house until he has completed at least eight semesters in the house or is married. The objective of this policy is to provide each member with the utmost opportunities to experience the Brotherhood of Alpha Kappa.

Besides reporting areas in need of repair, the AC is responsible for maintaining the general upkeep and cleanliness throughout the academic year. While this is primarily a pledge and new member activity, all chapter members are expected to assist in this effort. Finally, the AC organizes an annual workday when they undertake major projects with the approval of the HC.

The Educational Foundation (EF) also plays a role by providing financial scholarships some of which are based upon the performance of the house manager and other officers in fulfilling the responsibilities of their roles related to maintaining the house.

Finally, the Alumni Association (AA) is responsible for continually working to bring alumni back to the chapter house through a wide range of activities. Once back, some of the alumni become the source of new leadership in the three alumni entities. This action ensures that Alpha Kappa continues to have alumni with the ability and commitment to continue the policies which have lead to the Alpha Kappa chapter house being an outstanding home for the current members.



# House Corporation

## Meet Chris Ramsay

Ramsay has served as the Chapter Advisor since Bob Wolf retired in 1994. Prior to that he was the Assistant Chapter Advisor starting in 1990. The last 20 years have brought on a number of significant changes to AK. These changes have been driven by events and a determination by the Active Chapter and Alumni to first survive and then to excel. The success that AK enjoys today is a direct result of Active and Alumni members who joined together to serve each other and remain always faithful to the values of the fraternity. Over these many long years Ramsay has had the privilege of working directly with the Active Chapter to provide advice and council when needed.

Professionally, he was on the faculty of Missouri S&T in the department of Metallurgical Engineering from 1989 to 2005. Currently he is the Principal of Ramsay Scientific, Inc. which is a small company that specializes in Forensic Science and Failure Analysis. Ramsay holds three degrees in Metallurgical Engineering. He graduated from Missouri S&T in 1983 and 1985 with B.S. and M.S. degrees. Then, he graduated from the Colorado School of Mines with a Ph.D. in 1990. Ramsay is a member of the S&T Academy for the School of Mines and Metallurgy and is a member of the Board of Directors for the Miner Alumni Association.

He and Darlene have been married for 24 years. She is the Director of Advancement Services at Missouri S&T and a Past President of the Miner Alumni Association. Darlene is a 1984 graduate of S&T with a degree in Metallurgical Engineering. She is currently pursuing a masters degree in Engineering Management. Darlene has served the Chi Omega Fraternity as Rush Advisor for the last 20 years.

They have two daughters, Lauren and Katherine. Lauren is a senior at St. Louis University and plans graduate with a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree in 2013. Kate is a freshman at Missouri S&T with a double major in Mining and Metallurgical Engineering.

[www.akpikes.com](http://www.akpikes.com)

## Pi Kappa Alpha has a new website!

*This past summer Alpha Kappa's website (akpikes.com) was completely renovated, led by Parth Shah (AK '09). We decided to use the same graphic designer used to make this Alumni magazine, and closely following the style formatting of the National Headquarter website. This website can easily be changed by any user, with very little training. This will be very helpful, so when current mem-*

*bers graduate there is no transition period of training on that particular skill set. On the website you can find information for potential recruits, parents, and alumni. There is also a calendar function and upcoming events, so you can find out what the Active Chapter is up to. If you have any questions or suggestions about the website, feel free to contact Parth Shah at [webmaster@akpikes.com](mailto:webmaster@akpikes.com).*

# Upcoming Events

## February 19 — PRO Day

For more information on how you can help Alpha Kappa with recruitment, contact Brian VanBooven ([rush@akpikes.com](mailto:rush@akpikes.com)).

## February 25–27 – Founders’ Day Weekend

Please see the next page for more details on the events of this weekend.

## March 4 — PRO Day

For more information on how you can help Alpha Kappa with recruitment, contact Brian VanBooven ([rush@akpikes.com](mailto:rush@akpikes.com)).

## March 6–12 — 103rd St. Pat’s Celebration

Check with The Miner Alumni Association for a list of events and activities!

## March 26 – April 3 — Spring Break

## April 8 & 16 — PRO Days

For more information on how you can help Alpha Kappa with recruitment, contact Brian VanBooven ([rush@akpikes.com](mailto:rush@akpikes.com)).

## April 16 — International Workday

For more information on how you can help Alpha Kappa with International Workday, please contact John Van Gels ([president@akpikes.com](mailto:president@akpikes.com))

## April 30 — PRO Day

For more information on how you can help Alpha Kappa with recruitment, contact Brian VanBooven ([rush@akpikes.com](mailto:rush@akpikes.com)).

## April 29 – 30 — Executive Council Retreat

If you are interested in attending, please contact David Zimmerman ([david.zimmerman@rji-sales.com](mailto:david.zimmerman@rji-sales.com)).

## May 7 — Missouri S&T Commencement

## June 3, 10 & 17 — PRO Days

For more information on how you can help Alpha Kappa with recruitment, contact Brian VanBooven ([rush@akpikes.com](mailto:rush@akpikes.com)).

## August 13 — PRO Day & Opening Week Orientation

For more information on how you can help Alpha Kappa with recruitment, contact Brian VanBooven ([rush@akpikes.com](mailto:rush@akpikes.com)).

## Executive Retreat

Alpha Kappa’s executive officers joined together with officers from each alumni entity to discuss and create action plans on any issues at the winter executive retreat. The executive retreats are a great way to have officer transitions, which involve outgoing and incoming reports of new and old officers. During the reports officers do not emphasize their success, but rather focus more on the need of improvements that must be done in a certain area of the chapter. Following the reports the alumni and active members split out into groups to discuss the areas of improvement. After they collaborated for hours and finally created a strategic plan for the future everyone calls it a night. The next morning the outgoing SMC gave a report on what his project or area in the chapter he feels needed improvement. At the conclusion of the executive retreat new officers, old officers and alumni are all on the same direction and understanding on what the course of the fraternity is going.





## 2011 Founders' Day Schedule Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity

Please consider this schedule of times to be tentative. We will have a much more accurate schedule of events for this weekend going out at the beginning of next semester.

### Friday, February 25th

**All Day** — Open House

### Saturday, February 26th

**All Day** — Open House

**9:00 a.m.** — Educational Foundation Meeting  
(at Chapter house in the conference room)

**10:00 a.m.** — House Corporation Meeting  
(at Chapter house in the conference room)

**10:00 a.m.** — Parents and alumni should arrive

**11:00 a.m.** — Keynote Speaker  
Wolf Award Winner  
(at Chapter house in Wolf Hall)

**11:30 a.m.** — Scholarship Banquet  
(at Chapter house in Wolf Hall)

**12:30 p.m.** — Lunch

**1:30 p.m.** — Parents Event (TBA)

### Sunday, February 27th

**All Day** — Open House

*We'll see you at  
Founders' Day!*

## We Need Your Help!

Please help the active chapter update the alumni database by either filling out the "Alumni Update" below, or by contacting Lucas Wessel at lawt37@mst.edu. This information is not given to us by the University, and must be obtained in another way. Thank you for your time.

### Alumni Update

In order for you to receive your history book, Kapers, and future mailings accurately, we need to verify your address.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Say anything and/or send pictures! Update the Chapter and Alumni Association on your current activities to be published in the next Kapers.

\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☐ I am interested in receiving the Kapers digitally

### History Book

In a continuing effort to fully distribute the Alpha Kappa history book, please complete this section.

☐ I have already received my copy

☐ Please send me a copy

### Founders' Day 2011

Alpha Kappa will be holding a lunch during Founders' Day 2011. Please let the Chapter know if you plan to attend.

☐ I will be attending Founders' Day 2011

☐ I may be attending Founders' Day 2011

☐ I will not be attending Founders' Day 2011

Pi Kappa Alpha  
Alpha Kappa Chapter  
613 West 9th St.  
Rolla, MO 65401

Smythe Award Caption Here

