

Kapers



Homecoming
2022

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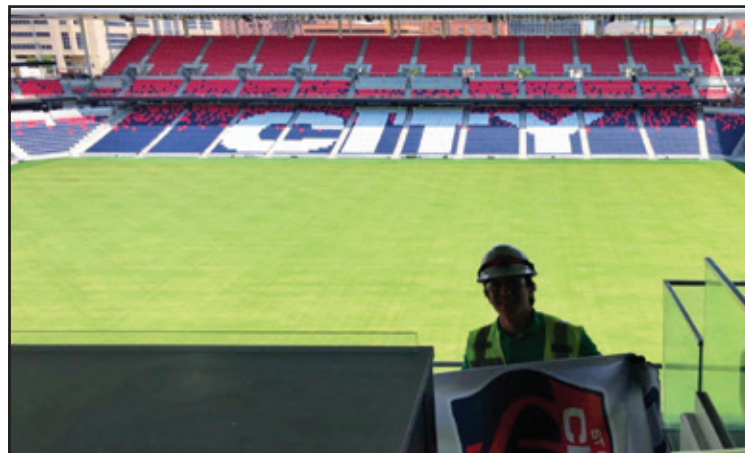
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◆ Active Chapter

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President's Letter

Throughout my new member semester in fall 2019, I quickly began to form aspirations to stand on the executive board. I learned that I possessed very valuable leadership traits that would be highly beneficial to the chapter. When the time came this past spring, with overwhelming support from the active chapter, I declared my run for SMC. I was very excited to step into the spotlight and contribute my talents to the chapter. President Jimmy Michels (AK'18) handed me the baton in late April of this year.

Building strong relationships with other organizations and improving campus image were among my top priorities to focus on in my presidency. I sought to utilize the position as a campus figure and a friendly face of the chapter. My plans got off to a quick start at the end of the spring semester, as I made desserts for Chi Omega after a very successful collaboration in the Greek Sing competition, where Chi Omega placed 2nd and Pike placed 4th. The summer presented a lot of challenges for me and my executive board. A very dry rush season in combination with a large graduating class presented an occupancy issue for the house. My team had many sessions of discussion with the housing corporation to address the issue and reach a compromise, which was ultimately to close the Powell Wing and only occupy the main part of the house.

The start of the semester gave me a sense of uncertainty in how everything would go with the closing of the Powell Wing, but the active chapter was definitely determined not to be discouraged by it. In early September, the active chapter, led by external vice president JT Becker (AK'21) and special events chair Carson Sinnard (AK'21), won 1st place in Greek Week by a huge margin. The chapter gained huge community recognition and positive reception from MS&T director of student involvement John Gallagher for the Firemen's Challenge philanthropy event, in which the chapter raised \$2,600 for the First



Harrison Hunt (AK'19)
SMC, Fall 2022

Responders Children's Foundation. Treasurer Andrew Barringhaus (AK'21) did an excellent job recouping outstanding debt, and with the additional funds, the chapter was able to make upgrades to the TV/game recreation room, boosting overall morale of the house.

I will now be passing the torch to the next SMC, Sam Bonderer (AK'20), who did an exceptional job as the new member educator this past semester. Sam will be accompanied by a young, talented executive board that will make significant innovations to Alpha Kappa's future.

In the bonds,
Harrison Hunt (AK'19)
SMC, Fall 2022

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International CONVENTION

In July of 2022, the Alpha Kappa Chapter sent three active members, ThC Drew Barringhaus (AK'21), member Nick Reilly (AK'20), and member Wyatt Burnett (AK'21) to the Pi Kappa Alpha International Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. This was the first in-person International Convention since 2018, so all in attendance were thrilled to be a part of it and to contribute to the PIKE legacy.

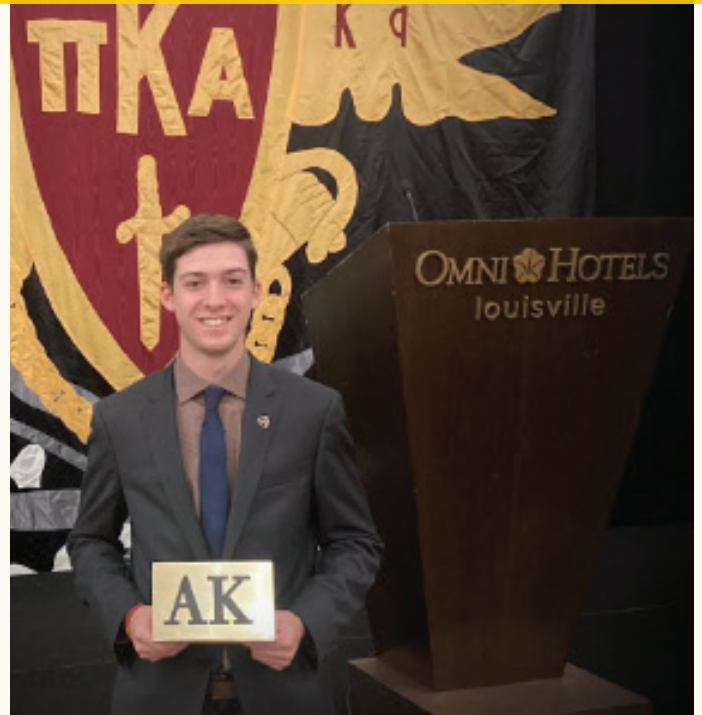
Drew stayed busy in the legislative sessions as Alpha Kappa's voting delegate. Drew was a delegate for the Membership Committee where he helped shape and amend legislation before final voting. This included membership appeals, new member reporting requirements, and chapter charter revocations. The majority of legislation at the International Convention was passed including clarity on minimum GPA requirements and simplified expulsion proceedings. Drew was honored to help steer the course for the future of the Fraternity,

Nick and Wyatt attended many other informational sessions including effective alumni relations, how to run a judicial board, and application of ritual. These sessions, along with others, will allow the Alpha Kappa Chapter to continue to progress in its efforts of improvement. Drew was able to strengthen his financial skills by attending the chapter finance session as well as by talking with the International Fraternity's Chief Financial Officer, J.R. Parsons.

Drew, Nick, and Wyatt were all able to take part in the initiation of General Lance L. Smith. General Lance L. Smith is a retired United States Air Force general who last served as the Commander, U.S. Joint Forces Command, Norfolk, Virginia, and NATO Supreme Allied Commander. He is a highly decorated combat veteran, and it was an honor for the men of Alpha Kappa to take part in this historic initiation at the International level.

At the awards banquet, Alpha Kappa was able to take home the Level II Recruitment award, Pike University 25 Man Commitment, and the 100% Phi Phi Kappa Alpha Club award.

For Drew, "The Convention was the most impactful and memorable experience I've had with Pi Kappa



ABOVE: Drew Barringhaus Representing Alpha Kappa.

RIGHT: PIKE University (Louisville, Kentucky)



Alpha thus far. Being able to talk one on one with not only our Chapter Consultant, Jonathan Belmontes, but also our Regional President, Chris Ehiogu, and Director of Services, Kyle Pearson, allowed me to cultivate my own relationships with them. Although Alpha Kappa did not receive what I would have liked it to for awards, I am determined to build the chapter back to where it once was."

GREEK WEEK

2022



Ryan May (AK'19) competing in the 100 meter.



Reclaiming the Title of Greek Week Champs!

After a disappointing end to Greek Week 2021, Alpha Kappa knew that they had to step up in order to eliminate the complacency of the previous year. The members of Alpha Kappa took the loss of last year personally, and returned this year hitting the ground running. Carson Sinnard (AK'21) and JT Becker (AK'21) took on the strenuous task of Greek Week Chairs, ultimately leading the chapter to victory. With the help of many members in Alpha Kappa, they were able to take charge of every single event and ensure the trophy was taken back to the home of Pi Kappa Alpha. It was especially rewarding for all of those who sacrificed countless long nights, meetings, and preparation for the two weeks of events. Throughout the various competitions of athletics, designs, and participation events Alpha Kappa gave it all we had. A very special highlight from Greek Week was Ryan May (AK'19) not only competing in the Hercules events but taking home the coveted trophy for getting first place. He competed in events that tested his speed, strength, and muscular endurance.

Alpha Kappa had something to prove this year especially after being placed in the last seed of many of the brackets.

Going into opening games weekend, the pressure was on with every fraternity showing up and ready to compete. Alpha Kappa came out strong by winning the ultimate frisbee tournament and then proceeding to have the fastest time for chariot race. Later in the day, the Pike volleyball team secured the win completing the day and finishing in first place overall for opening games. The artistic side of Alpha Kappa came through during the following week of Greek Week, taking first place in the canned castle design contest and the chariot design showcase. These events also supported Pi Kappa Alpha's Fireman's Challenge. Going into the final weekend of Greek Week, Pike secured the win in the softball tournament. With everyone ready to go the following morning, Alpha Kappa headed to the fields one last time. To start the day off, Pike took first place in ladder golf and the obstacle course. Going into the last event of the day, Alpha Kappa competed in the biggest battle of mental toughness for all of Greek Week, tug of war. Pike showed up and conquered the event taking home the first place. This concluded all the games and the hard work that went into making it such a successful

week. This week brought all the members together, competing for one common goal which was to take home the trophy and prove our dominance once again.

Several new members stepped up big in their respective sports including Keagan Walters (AK'22), Matthew Horbeck (AK'22), Oscar Sargent (AK'22), Keaton Roof (AK'22), Hunter Dunn (AK'22), and Isaac Legene (AK'22). Greek Week is something everyone takes part in whether it's athletics, behind the scenes work, or creative thought. It brings the best in everyone out, showing their abilities to help achieve the common goal of winning. Alpha Kappa has the men that step up in all aspects of this week proving how successful they are in every competition. Alpha Kappa is excited to rise again next fall to come and face the challenge of winning Greek Week again.



Ryan May (AK'19) competing in the ladder golf competition.



Cole Hopper (AK'21) in the Sand Volleyball Competition.



Dominic Ponciroli (AK'21) juking members of BetaSig.



Alexander Siampos (AK'18) competing in the annual Greek Talent Show.



Tug of war finals with support from the whole chapter.



INTRAMURALS

Continuing Success in Intramurals

Once again, the Alpha Kappa chapter had another successful intramural season this fall. We had over 20 teams compete in various sports this semester ranging from very competitive Pikes A teams to our just for fun leagues where brothers can enjoy playing in less competitive games as well. We also continued our competitive tradition this semester finishing within the top three in every major sporting event.

We competed in Ultimate Frisbee, the Softball Tournament, Flag Football, and Futsal. We won three of the four of these intramurals. Ultimate Frisbee was the first on the list this fall and the regular season was a breeze for the roster of 11. Entering the Championship Game undefeated Alpha Kappa was favored to win. The game was against Phi Kappa Theta and the final score was 8-6. This was a dominating start to our intramural year.

Next was the first ever Softball Tournament. Usually the intramurals for softball is a league just like every other sport. This year though, due to lack of teams and funding to run the games they hosted a one day tournament. With a roster of 11+ our team was ready on all ends for this tournament. Making it to the finals, Alpha Kappa then had to face Kappa Alpha. The game started slowly, staying 0-0 through the first two innings. After the second inning our team turned a gear. Multiple doubles and a triple in one inning gave an early lead of 4-0. They struck back a few times but ultimately the game finished in favor of Alpha Kappa 5-2. There were still two innings of play but the darkness of the night made Kappa Alpha call it quits ultimately giving us the championship.

Flag football and futsal were both being played during the same time. The regular season for both these sports saw sweeps and no worries with both teams being undefeated for playoffs. The flag football team ran through the first

two games of playoffs with ease but unfortunately fell to SigEp in the semi-finals. On the other hand though, futsal went out and dominated the competition all the way to another championship. In the finals Alpha Kappa played a team that was not a part of Greek life. The game stayed close until the very end with a final score of 2-1. The guys played great defense to win the game and take home the championship.

This year is looking just like the last few as Alpha Kappa holds 1st place in intramurals. We look forward to carrying this momentum into the spring to achieve 1st in All Greek intramurals.

LEFT: The brothers celebrate after Futsal Championship game.

RIGHT: Samuel Bonderer (AK'20) goes up for a spike in a Co-Rec intramural volleyball game.

BOTTOM LEFT: Jacob Mendez (AK '17) going up for a catch in Ultimate Frisbee.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Danny Weishaar (AK'21) making a great defensive block.



CUB CREEK • SALEM, MISSOURI

During this service trip, the active chapter was invited out by Anna Ulrich to do some work for her Cub Creek animals. Anna Ulrich lives out here in Rolla, and owns many types of animals that are either injured or endangered. These animals include horses, llama, groundhogs, raccoons, lemurs, and many more. Anna lives out on the farm where she is the caretaker for not only all of the animals, but also her father. Her hands are always full, so a group of members from the Alpha Kappa chapter headed out to her farm to help on various projects that she needed done. These activities included mucking horse pens, cleaning chicken coops, cleaning water troughs, and organizing the living space for her animals. Thank you to Anna for being so kind and appreciative of our hard work.

Dominic Pona (AK'21) working at cub creek.



KALEIDOSCOPE DISCOVERY LEARNING CENTER • ROLLA, MISSOURI

On September 24th, a group from the house walked down the streets of Rolla to help out the Kaleidoscope Discovery Learning Center. This place is a STEM education center for younger children. It serves as a science center for kids to learn about robotics and technology. The members here gathered and put our best help forward to produce and assemble lego education kits. These kits were assembled and organized to be used for the future. The kits involved the basics in robotics learning. We also helped organize the playroom and sorted through all kinds of parts. A couple members helped assemble a homemade 3D printer that was intended to be used by the kids at the learning center. While this was going on, a group was outside in the street interacting with kids playing games such as cornhole, sidewalk chalk, and giant chess. We were glad to be able to help kids in need and we appreciated Kaleidoscope for letting us come out.

Brothers Cole Hopper (AK'21) and Quinn Johnson (AK'21) hula hooping with the kids at the learning center.





JDRF finish line with all of our members supporting the cause.

JDRF WALK • ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

The JDRF Walk happens every year annually at Meramec College in Saint Louis. This event is to raise awareness and fund research for Type 1 diabetes. This event took place on a Sunday, so brothers gathered at each other's houses in Saint Louis Saturday night to prepare for the service event the next morning. At this event, members helped set up booths and decorations for the JDRF Walk. The morning was spent setting up games and interactive activities for the kids and their families. The event had an inflatable slide, a rock wall, obstacle course, and many other attractions and activities for families to come together. During the event, members worked at these attractions and tables to guide

children in the right direction. The event was a success for all of the people that were participating in the walk. As the event was closing up, we started to help the employees pack up all of their supplies and belongings in a trailer. After the event was over, members helped the staff at their storage unit unload supplies for the coming years. The brothers here had a great time at this event, and we hope to keep a good relationship with this organization.

CAMPUS

involvement

115TH BEST EVER ST. PATS

In previous years St. Pats has meant more and more to the members of the chapter. With members so involved such as Joseph Schweer (AK'20) Alpha Kappa wanted to get as involved as possible. For the 115th Best Ever St. Pats competition our chapter plans on making Shilalis and a Cudgel. Samuel Bonderer (AK'20) and Erik Wyatt (AK'20) along with other members of the chapter will show these off at the celebration. The whole house is excited to compete in another activity together this coming spring!



Pikes take action in celebration of St. Pats In the Spring with cudgel preparation.

CLUB SPORTS

This semester we had a few members competing in club sports. Members Joey Werley (AK'21), Isaac Lagene (AK'22), Luke Mirly (AK'21), and Nick Newman (AK'21) all were in club sports. Nick Newman, Luke Mirly, and Isaac Lagene were in club volleyball. Luke Mirly was unfortunately not able to play after a concussion. Nick continued to play and also was an official in some games as a way to participate on campus. Isaac Lagene also played the whole season and represented the new member class. Joey Werley was on the rugby club team and was our only member in a different club sport.

LINKING HEARTS

Every September, Rolla, Missouri serves as the venue for a very special event: The Linking Hearts Adoption Fair. Hosted each year for over a decade by The Community Partnership in Rolla, this event is an opportunity for potential adoptive parents to interact with adoptable children from around Missouri. Many Greek organizations have helped run the event for years. Alpha Kappa had several members help setup and run the event all day!



Cole Hopper (AK'21) at Linking Hearts.

Alpha Chi Sigma

Trey Beckham
Nick Reilly

American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics

Cole Hopper
Danny Weishaar
Sam Becker
Michael Ward
Jonathan Berra

American Nuclear Society

Drew Barringhaus

American Society of Civil Engineers

Austin Buck
JT Becker
Dominic Pona
Wyatt Moore
Wyatt Burnett
Sam Bonderer
Dan Walsh
Erik Wyatt
Carson Sinnard
Micheal Radlund

American Society of Engineering Management

Braxton Schmedeke

American Society of Mechanical Engineers

Harrison Hunt
Dakota Gotsch
Collin Pepper
Luke Mirly

Army ROTC

Dakota Saylor
Michael Radlund

Associated General Contractors (AGC)

Dan Walsh
Sam Bonderer
Erik Wyatt

Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)

Oscar Sargent
Payton Labbee

BBQ Club

Levi Goodin

Chancellor's Leadership Academy

Harrison Hunt

Chem-E Car Design Team

Nick Reilly

Club Volleyball

Isaac Legene
Nicholas Newman
Luke Mirly

Disc Golf Club

JT Becker
Keagan Walters

ECO Miners

Blake Moore

Formula Electric Design Team

Drew Barringhaus
Gavin Walker

Formula SAE

Gavin Walker
Tyler Mehl
Dominic Poncioli

Fraternal Order of Leaders

Joseph Schweer
Nick Reilly

Institute of Electrical & Electronic Engineers

Joseph Breen
Ryan May

Intrafraternity Council

Braxton Schmedeke
Joseph Schweer
Evan Sisavath

Kummer Vanguard Scholar

Gavin Walker
Drew Barringhaus
Quinn Johnson
John Mcleod
Hunter Dunn
Luke Mirly

Lifestylez Tours

Drew Barringhaus

Miner Aviation

Jacob Lyons
Michael Ward

MS&T Esports Club

John Mcleod
Shaun Brooks

MS&T Honors Society

John Mcleod

MS&T Varsity Soccer

Luke Mirly
Marcus Kjar
Aiden Laubinger
Dennis Cloud
Jason Jorgensen

Motorcycle Design Team

Doug Poertner

Omega Chi Epsilon

Nick Reilly

Order of Omega

Wyatt Moore

Phi Sigma Pi

Joseph Schweer

Rock Climbing Club

Oscar Sargent
Dakota Gotsch
Samuel Briar

Rocket Design Team

Cole Hopper
Danny Weishaar
Collin York
Sam Becker

Rugby Team

Joey Werley
Keagan Walters

St. Pat's Board

Joseph Schweer

Solar Car Design Team

Joseph Breen

Solar House Design Team

JT Becker
Sam Bonderer
Erik Wyatt
Hunter Dunn

Steel Bridge Design Team

Austin Buck
Carson Sinnard
Dominic Pona

Surveying Teacher Assistant

Dominic Pona
Wyatt Moore

Tau Beta Pi Honor Society

Ryan May
Harrison Hunt

Several members at Pie A Pike during Fireman's Challenge.



FIREMAN'S CHALLENGE

Following the conclusion of Greek Week 2022, Alpha Kappa began to finish preparations for its next project of the fall semester, Fireman's Challenge. Fireman's Challenge is the chapter's annual philanthropy week for the fall semester that was held from October 17th-22nd. All of the proceeds from the week were donated to the First Responders Children's Foundation which provides support for the children of those lost or injured in the line of duty. This semester, the philanthropy committee intended to hold the best Fireman's Challenge week that the chapter had seen since before Covid-19. To achieve this, Brothers JT Becker (AK'21) and Cole Hopper (AK'21) began planning for Fireman's Challenge in the final weeks of the prior spring semester. During these early meetings, Becker and Hopper discussed many things such as the week's schedule, shirt ideas, and potential sponsors. As Fireman's Challenge drew nearer, the philanthropy committee grew into a 6 man team that was ready to take on the task.

On October 17th, the philanthropy committee started off the week strong with an on campus event, Pie a Pike. Headed by Brother Walters (AK'22), this event was held in front of the library from 10 A.M.-2 P.M. Despite the chilly weather, the brothers working the event were able to have fun watching their brothers get pied and even throwing

some pies themselves. Throughout the day, more than 100 pies were thrown at over 20 brothers making the event a huge success compared to other on-campus events. On Tuesday October 18th, Brother Ponciroli (AK'22) led the Pike's Pups event on Havener Lawn from 10-2PM. Partnering with the Phelps County Animal Shelter, 5 adoptable dogs were brought onto campus in hopes of finding them forever homes. Throughout the day, dozens of students came to pet and play with the dogs. On October 19th, Brother Schmedeke (AK'21) took charge in a car wash held at the chapter house lot. This event was a huge success with nearly 100 cars and an ATV being washed in 4 hours. The brothers utilized advertising on Highway 63 to bring in a constant stream of cars despite the cold weather. While a majority of those working the car wash wore hoodies and pants, some decided to bring out the summer wear and forget about the cold. On October 20th, Brother Sinnard (AK'21) planned out the annual Fireman's Challenge volleyball tournament. This double elimination tournament was a large success for the chapter not only in raising money but in having a very competitive environment. This tournament went on into Friday evening where the team led by Lyons (AK'20) faced off against Hopper's (AK'21) team in the finals. Lyons' team came out victorious after a very close and intense game. With the

Members washing cars at the Pike's Car Wash Event.



tournament done, the week of Fireman's Challenge was coming to an end while the Philanthropy team was still going strong in preparation for the last day. On October 22nd, the week was concluded with Pike's Pasta at the chapter house. From 12–5 P.M., people were able to stop by and grab food or order delivery. The event ended up being a success with over 100 people and multiple organizations coming to eat pasta.

Apart from the events of the week, the philanthropy committee was also able to raise money through online crowdchange donations and a t-shirt sale. Both of these proved successful with multiple alumni and parents making donations and over 90 shirts sold. In total, we were able to raise around \$2,500 with this year's Fireman's Challenge. The week also ended up being a blast for everyone who was involved in making it happen.



Christmas FUN

The brothers of Alpha Kappa have always had a tradition to do secret Santa at the end of the semester. This year the event was organized by Cole Hopper (AK'21) and had over 60 members participating in the secret gifting. This is a great way for the whole active chapter to get in the mood for Christmas and most importantly strengthen the bonds between them. The chapter also participated in a house decorating competition. Each of the hallways of members competed to see who can decorate the best. This is always a lot of fun and gets all of the members of the house to effectively come together.



Brotherhood Week

Brotherhood Week was held the week before Halloween this year. It was led by Brother Earnest Burnett (AK'21). The week started off with Hallway decorating which always sees major support. Everyone in the house decorated their respective hallways with spooky decorations. Monday was the first time Alpha Kappa has done a pumpkin carving competition. Several members of the house picked up pumpkins and the active chapter competed in creating the spookiest jack-o-lanterns. With Tuesday rolling around, the brothers prepared for the minute to win-it games. They are always competitive amongst the members of the house. Wednesday was all about PIKE pride. The active chapter showing out on campus

with as much PIKE gear as possible. Thursday saw us outside for some nice weather with some side yard games and tournaments. Members competed in Spike Ball tournaments as well as bags. By Friday, everyone was ready for the ping pong tournament. Members of the house have been actively playing ping pong and the competition was intense. Brotherhood week ended in a great fashion with all members getting together after the ping pong tournament to hang out the rest of the night.



Decorating the hallways with a spooky theme for Halloween.



Brothers Matthew Hornbeck (AK'22) and Tyler Mehl (AK'21) carving pumpkins for brotherhood week.



Brothers gather around to accept the generous scholarships given by AKEP and Alumni.

Homecoming

Homecoming this year was held on the 22nd of October. The annual event was separated from Dad's Day again and several alumni turned out for the event. Many were around the area for awards on campus as well. Several decided to hang out for a few days around the house and it was great having them. With a strong turnout and great event the chapter only hopes to see more alumni show up for Founders' Day in the spring.

On homecoming many awards were given out both to members of the chapter and alumni. The R.V. Wolf Loyalty Award was given to an outstanding alumnus Perrin R. Roller (AK'80). The chapter was grateful to also hear speeches from Bob Brockhaus and distinguished alumni Tony Woltjen.

Following the awards ceremony for the alumni and a great speech by Bob Brockhaus the annual scholarship presentation was given which saw great success as every year more and more money is being given out to the young men of Alpha Kappa. Our participation in Homecoming continued to be strong by creating a float and having a major turn out for the homecoming football game. Many members tailgated before the football game and homecoming brought both the alumni and the active chapter together.



Brothers Austin Buck (AK'21) and Cole Hopper (AK'21) with their fathers at St. James Golf Course.

DAD'S DAY

On Saturday October 15th, the chapter hosted Dad's Day. The day started off with a golf scramble at St. James Golf Course. After that had finished, brother Blake Moore showed off his ability to smoke meat and provided everyone with pulled pork and potatoes. After

an amazing lunch we had our cornhole tournament. After a couple long rounds, we finally had a champion; brother Dominic Ponciroli and his dad, Jeff Ponciroli. Dad's day was a major success this year and we can't wait to see even more dads come out in the years to come.



NEW INITIATES & PLEDGES

This fall, 10 men were initiated into the Alpha Kappa Chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha. These young men knew there were great expectations from them as a class, and did everything they could to exceed these expectations. The entire class has spent time improving themselves, as well as our chapter, campus, and community. In their first semester, they have taken part in multiple committees in the chapter, as well as lending a helping hand to improving the physical house. Each initiate has been involved with at least one Pikes A Team in intramural in which our chapter has competed and been doing well.

Around campus, each member has been heavily involved with many clubs and organizations with a minimum of two for each member, these include the Varsity Soccer Team, Formula SAE Design Team, Rock Climbing, and many more. They have helped many communities by participating in our JDRF Walk, Kaleidoscope, and Mentoring Program. As a class, they have averaged well above the All-Greek Men's Average GPA and continue to make academic successes. These men have huge hopes for the future of Alpha Kappa and everyone in it.

INTERNSHIPS & CO-OPS

J.T. Becker (AK'21)

This past summer I received an internship with Keeley Construction in their Paving Group. This internship helped me get an idea of the work that goes into construction jobs on a day-to-day basis. This internship strengthened my knowledge in my industry while getting to travel around the United States. All the efforts put toward my job had given me another summer internship with them in a different department too. I worked on big box store parking lots as a superintendent on site, reporting all findings and progress to my project manager. This allowed me to enhance my leadership skills as well as team management skills as I worked with a different crew on all sites also allowing me to network and expand my social skills in the work field.

Besides traveling and working on many different job sites, I was working hands on relaying information to my project manager to make sure the safety and the timelines were still being met on a day-to-day basis. My primary job was to oversee work being done and coordinate with both my project manager and the foreman of the job site to check all work done. I was able to lead safety site meetings daily, take notes and data from work being done, measure and calculate amounts of concrete or asphalt used, observe and correct safety issues on site, and keep my project manager up to date with daily reports.

As mentioned, because I enjoyed my time with Keeley Construction so much it pushed me not only to take a returning offer from them, but to take a position in a different part of their company allowing me to expand upon my skills and learn more pursuing work in project management.



Brother J.T. Becker getting ready for his first day of work.

Schaffer Stephens (AK'20)

I spent the summer and fall of 2021 on co-op working for City Utilities of Springfield Missouri. I worked as a designer for their Natural Gas and Water engineering department, where I basically decided where and how new gas and water pipes would be installed around the city. This was mainly through the use of AutoCad, where I would look at a scrub drawing of the current systems and determine the best way to install the new systems. I also figured out how to avoid current piping, electric lines, communication lines, private property, and other infrastructure. Some of my work was going out to the field with a company truck and taking measurements off of pavement, hydrants, poles, or anything else that may be in the way, and referencing them against our scrub drawings to be as accurate as possible. My experience at City Utilities allowed me to enhance my skills in software from the use of AutoCad as well as teamwork. The design and work process for these drawings definitely surprised me but I was never disappointed by the work I was doing and would recommend them to anyone who is considering a position there.



Brother Schaffer Stephens at his desk.

SPRING '23 CO-OPS

NAME	COMPANY	POSITION
Luke Mirly	Mercury Marine	Base Engine Design
Jake Lyons	True Manufacturing	Sheet Metal Operations Engineer
Joseph Breen	Marathon Petroleum	Refinery Electrical Engineer



Class of December 2022

We had 11 new graduates although not every single one was able to make the picture. Throughout their time in PIKE

they completed several tasks with exec positions, positions on campus, and a lot of intramural and greek week wins.

BENTON BRIGHTWELL

Mechanical Engineering

Benton graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering.



JOSEPH IVANCHUK

*Aerospace Engineering
Mechanical Engineering*

Joseph was initiated in the Fall of 2018. He is relocating to California where he'll be working for Boeing as a Structural Engineer.



ALEXANDER SIAMPOS

*Electrical Engineering
Mathematics Minor*

Alexander was initiated in the Fall of 2018. He will be working for Honeywell FM&T based in Kansas City, MO working in simulation. He served PIKE as President, Risk Manager, Director of Recruitment, and New Member Educator.



ALEXANDER BURNS

*Petroleum Engineering
Geological Engineering*

Alex is from the Fall 2017 pledge class. He will be a Field Engineer for Gore Nitrogen in western Oklahoma. Burns served as a representative on the Interfraternity Council and became Hephaestus for Godz Week celebration.



JACK NYMETZ

Civil Engineering

Jack was initiated in the Spring of 2019. He will be working for Walsh Construction as a Project Engineer on the I-270 bridge project just north of St. Louis.



COLIN STOLZE

*Mechanical Engineering
Engineering Mgmt Minor*

Colin was initiated in the Spring of 2019. He will be working as a Sales Engineer in St. Louis, Missouri. He was a member of the S&T golf team for four years.



RYAN HASKIN

Civil Engineering

Ryan is a member of the Fall 2019 pledge class and will be working in St. Louis as a project engineer.



ANDREW PAPPAS

Mechanical Engineering

Andrew was initiated in the Fall of 2018. He will be working for Dynamic Controls, Inc. as a Mechanical Engineer in St. Louis.



QUINTEN ZAK

Civil Engineering

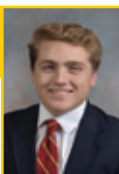
Quinten was initiated in the Fall of 2018. Post graduation, he is attending law school in Florida to pursue construction law.



JACK HENKE

Civil Engineering

Jack was initiated in the Fall of 2018. He will be working for Contegra Construction in St. Louis, Missouri.



DAKOTA SAYLOR

Multidisciplinary Studies

Brother Saylor was initiated in the Fall of 2017. He participated in Army ROTC and commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant. He will be attending Quartermaster Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC) in Fort Lee. Afterwards, he will be a Platoon Leader in Knightdale, NC, for the 1006th Quartermaster Company.



RUSH

Alpha Kappa recruitment continues to recruit the best men to uphold its values and reputation for years to come. The Fall 2022 pledge class is composed of 10 aspiring, young gentlemen, and we are exuberant on their abilities to better the fraternity moving forward. Recruitment for this year's pledge class included attending many PRO Days, hosting rush events, and gauging interest through zoom calls or dinners. The recruitment team's success was aided by the involvement of the active chapter in name generation and involvement in PRO Days. With a smaller Fall class, the active chapter size still rivals all chapters on campus with 89 members.

Recruitment struggles have plagued Alpha Kappa's new member class size for the last year but have not affected the passion with which new members have expressed towards the fraternity. Over the course of the fall semester the recruitment team

has participated in meetings to discuss the future of recruitment and the steps needed to regain the top spot on campus. Of these meetings, a very different Rush Retreat was held with the help of many past Directors of Recruitment. This retreat brought recruitment and the way we rush back to the basics from the first text sent to when and how is the proper way to bid a Potential New Member.



Carson Sinnard (AK'21)
Director of Recruitment

Nevertheless, Alpha Kappa's Recruitment team has been working hard to bring the most best men to the fraternity. We look forward to continuing our success at Missouri S&T, on and off campus.

Want to help with RUSH?

Do you know a high school senior coming to Missouri S&T in the fall? Does he have the qualities to make an excellent Pike?

Any suggestions will be greatly appreciated and actively pursued by our recruitment committee.

CONTACT: Carson Sinnard
Director of Recruitment

Email: cds6db@mst.edu

RUSH ORGANIZATION

Director of Recruitment

Carson Sinnard (AK'21)

Rush Advisor

Samuel Bonderer (AK'20)

Rush Captains

Oscar Sargent (AK'22)

Isaac Lagene (AK'22)

JT Becker (AK'20)

Austin Buck (AK'21)

Dennis Cloud (AK'22)

Wyatt Burnett (AK'21)

Nick Newman (AK'20)

Cole Hopper (AK'21)

Erik Wyatt (AK'20)

SMC (PRESIDENT)

Harrison Hunt

NEW MEMBER EDUCATOR

**Sam
Bonderer**

ASSISTANTS

Erik Wyatt
Sam Johns
Joey Werley

ThC (TREASURER)

**Drew
Barringhaus**

SC (SECRETARY)

**Joseph
Schweer**

VP — RISK MANAGEMENT

**Nicholas
Newman**

DIRECTOR OF RECRUITMENT

**Erik
Wyatt**

RUSH CHAIRMEN

Cole Hopper
Carson Sinnard
Dominic Pona
Austin Buck

RUSH CAPTAINS

Sam Bonderer
Alex Ketcherside
Quinn Johnson
Andrew Pappas
Wyatt Burnett
Markus Kjar
Nick Newman
JT Becker
Dominic Ponciroli

RECRUITMENT ADVISOR

Harrison Hunt

HOUSE MANAGER

**Andrew
Dutton**

DAILY DUTIES

Drew Barringhaus

EXTERIOR

Braxton Schmedeke

FIX-IT

Alex Whombacher
Trey Earls

RECYCLING

Danny Weishaar

STEWARD

Schaffer Stevens

WEEKEND CLEANING

Andrew Dutton

ASSISTANT HOUSE MANAGER

Dakota Gotsch

1ST IMC (EXTERNAL VP)

JT Becker

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

CHAIRMAN: Sam Becker
COMMITTEE: Dominic Pona

COMMUNITY SERVICE

CHAIRMAN: Dominic Pona
COMMITTEE: Sam Becker

INTRAMURALS

CHAIRMAN: Luke Mirly

PHILANTHROPY

CHAIRMAN: Cole Hopper
COMMITTEE: Carson Sinnard

PUBLIC RELATIONS

CHAIRMAN: Erik Wyatt
COMMITTEE: Cole Hopper

SORORITY RELATIONS

CHAIRMAN: Alex Ketcherside
COMMITTEE: Dominic Ponciroli

SOCIAL

CHAIRMAN: Austin Buck
COMMITTEE: Alex Ketcherside

SPECIAL EVENTS

CHAIRMAN: Carson Sinnard
COMMITTEE: Cole Hopper

2ND IMC (INTERNAL VP)

Nathen Gober

ALUMNI RELATIONS

CHAIRMAN: Gavin Walker
COMMITTEE: Jonathan Berra

BROTHERHOOD

CHAIRMAN: Wyatt Burnett
COMMITTEE: Gavin Walker

COMPUTERS

CHAIRMAN: Wyatt Moore

GUEST SPEAKERS

CHAIRMAN: Blake Moore

FUNDRAISING

CHAIRMAN: Alex Whombacher

HISTORIAN

CHAIRMEN: Schaffer Stevens, Micheal Radlund

PARENT'S CLUB

CHAIRMAN: Nick Newman

SCHOLARSHIP

CHAIRMAN: Nick Reilly



Spring 2023 Incoming Executive Officers

SMC: Sam Bonderer

1ST IMC: Cole Hopper

2ND IMC: Dominic Pona

ThC: Drew Barringhaus

SC: Gavin Walker

HOUSE MANAGER: Andrew Dutton

NEW MEMBER EDUCATOR: Erik Wyatt

DIRECTOR OF RECRUITMENT: Carson Sinnard

VP—RISK MANAGEMENT: Austin Buck



Harrison Hunt at the CITYPARK Field.

brotherhood **SPOTLIGHT**

HARRISON HUNT (AK'19)

Throughout my entire school career, I had been an exceptional student in mathematics and science courses, so naturally, I knew I wanted to pursue higher education in engineering. When the time came to pick a college my senior year, the only school I applied to was Missouri S&T. For an engineering major in the state of Missouri, it just made too much sense to choose S&T, as it has always been a financially competitive school that is close to my home in St. Louis. Whether I chose S&T or a different school, joining a fraternity was definitely not in my plans, it was something I had never given thought to. In April 2019, I came to S&T for my PRO day, where I was exposed to the many fraternities on campus. I was very intrigued by the many social, academic, and athletic opportunities that they offered, which ultimately encouraged me to go tour several houses later that day.

With 18 fraternities on campus, it can be overwhelming for prospective freshman rushees to decide which one to rush. My immediate and extended family has a rich history of involvement in Greek life, so I received lots of opinions of where I should rush. Most notably, I have two uncles who are UMR alumni and were members of Tau Kappa Epsilon. However, I was most impressed by Pi Kappa Alpha, their house, winning culture, and membership. My mother also influenced me to heavily consider Pike, as she has many lifelong Pike friends from her time at Mizzou. Pike also was home to many familiar faces from Lindbergh High School, my alma mater in St. Louis. After attending dinners and events with active members, I signed my bid to rush Pike in June of 2019.

The summer of 2019 went by fast and I moved into the chapter house in August. Adjusting to college and life in the house definitely took several weeks, but I became comfortable and very appreciative of my future brothers. Pike quickly became instrumental in helping me maximize my college experience in every facet.

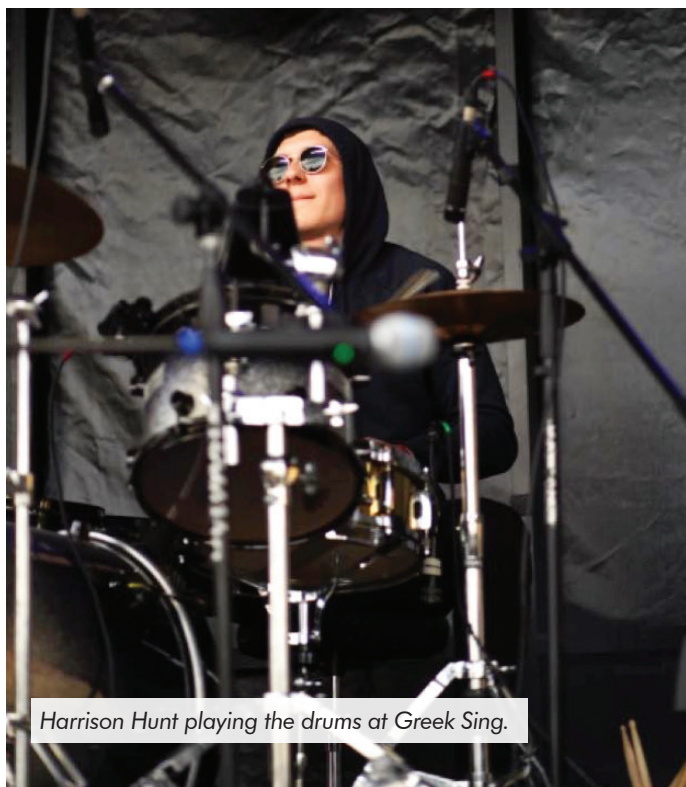
I have always held a high standard of academic excellence throughout my school career and I looked to uphold my success at S&T. I had long been told how academically rigorous an institution S&T was, so one of my main draws to rushing a fraternity were the files systems and study group opportunities. Using these perks, I have been able to produce outstanding grades, which has earned me some of the high profile Alpha Kappa scholarship awards exclusive to Pike members, as well as five semesters running on the Dean's List. I also have the unique experience of earning a minor in German

language, as well as changing my major in my time here at S&T, as I entered as a ceramic engineering major, but switched to mechanical engineering at the conclusion of my freshman year in spring 2020.

My switch to mechanical engineering from ceramic engineering was a decision I made to give myself more professional opportunities. While I found the realm of materials science fascinating, it is very niche. Mechanical engineering gives me the broadest degree and the ability to delve into many, various engineering industries. My freshman year, I greatly benefited from attending the career fair. Although it is difficult for freshmen to earn an internship offer, just attending helped me refine my confidence when talking to employers. Attendance was a part of Pike's new member education program, which was a great mechanism for my professional development. I received my first internship in the form of a co-op my sophomore year, spring 2021, with Tech Manufacturing in Wright City, MO. Tech is an aerospace manufacturer, specializing in complex, multi-axis, military jet parts for primarily Boeing. I thoroughly enjoyed my experience there and learned a lot, which would not have been possible if it weren't for the Pike connections I had. The previous semester, brothers Michael Ward (AK'19) and Collin York (AK'19) had interned with Tech and represented our chapter in a very positive manner, allowing me to apply and have special consideration. In my second internship, I stayed in St. Louis for the summer of 2022, interning with Sachs Electric as a project engineer. I had the once in a lifetime opportunity to be assigned to the CITYPARK job site in downtown St. Louis, the construction site for our new MLS team, St. Louis City SC. I absolutely loved the position and was able to meet up with more Alpha Kappa alumni Joe Young (AK'98) and Zach Baker (AK'11).

My experience in Pike and S&T however has been mostly characterized by everything I've done outside of my academics. I am a social, active, and competitive individual, all of which aligned well with the climate of the active chapter. In intramural sports, I was eager to compete for Pike's A basketball and tennis. One of my favorite moments representing the chapter was my junior year's Greek Sing competition in spring 2022, where I drummed and played guitar. Pike placed 4th in the competition, the best we had done in years. Outside of Pike, I enriched my S&T experience by interviewing and becoming a member of Chancellor's Leadership Academy and being initiated into the Tau Beta Pi engineering honors society. Chancellor's Leadership Academy provided me with lots of beneficial professional development training, as well as in-person events at chancellors Mo Dehghani's residence. Earning admittance into Tau Beta Pi was a huge honor for me and was reflective of the hard work I put into my courses. Admittance into the society was limited to only the top 5% of GPA for engineering majors in my class.

I am extremely grateful for every choice I have made in coming to S&T and likewise, Pi Kappa Alpha. As my time in the chapter nears its end, I hope to remain an active role-model to the younger generations of the house. It is my wish for future brothers to be able to achieve the same success and lifelong memories as I did.



Harrison Hunt playing the drums at Greek Sing.

Daniel Walsh (AK'18)

This semester I was generously awarded the R.V. Wolf Scholarship along with GPA and Officer scholarships from the previous semester. The scholarships awarded to me by the generous Alpha Kappa Alumni have assisted in sustaining my financial peace of mind. These scholarships truly help by giving me that extra fiscal cushion, and allow me to spend more time on my studies. I would like to thank my amazing brothers for electing me as the recipient of the R.V. Wolf Award, and I would also like to thank the most generous Alpha Kappa Education Foundation.

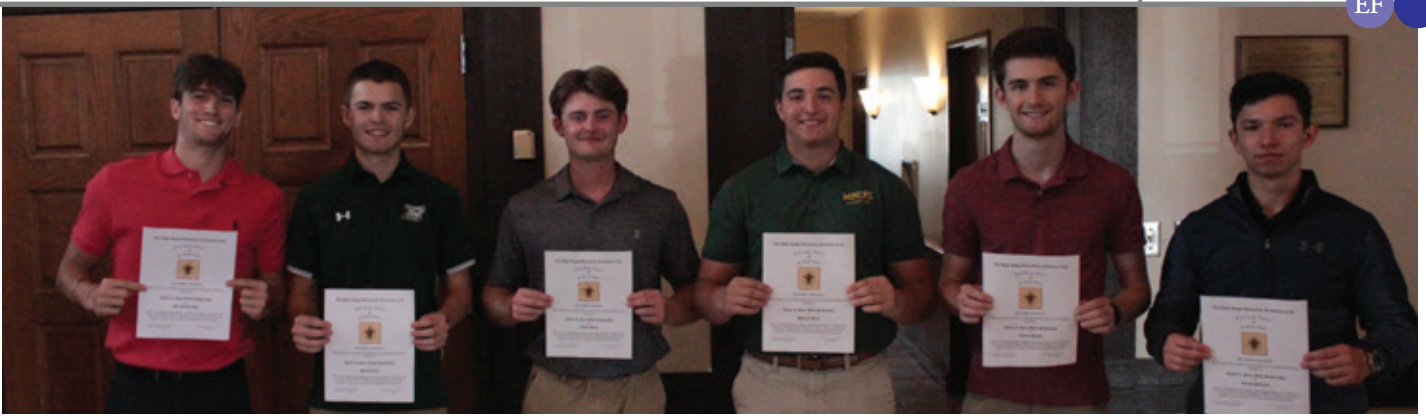
**Luke Mirly (AK'21)**

After being a part of Pi Kappa Alpha and living in house for the past two-semester I have been extremely honored to receive multiple scholarships including the Karl R. Morgan scholarship this year. My parents and I are extremely grateful to the Alpha Kappa Educational Foundation for their support of my academics and athletics at S&T. I understand that it can be a challenge for the alumni to give back year after year, but I want them to understand how appreciative each and every one of us is of their generosity and support. Being a student athlete is quite the time commitment, but with Pike encouraging each of its student athletes, it helps reinforce my commitment to this house.

***Interested in helping a brother out?***

Contact Chapter Advisor Andrew Wylie for information on how you can start a scholarship.

Email: andrew.w.wylie@gmail.com Cell: (337) 207-8561



SCHOLASTIC awards

LEADERSHIP Awards

OFFICER SCHOLARSHIPS

Harrison Hunt
J.T. Becker
Drew Barringhaus

Nathen Gober
Andrew Dutton
Joseph Schweer
Sam Bonderer

ALUMNI Awards

CHARLES WENTZ, JR. CHEM-E AWARD

Trey Beckham
Nick Reilly

SPENCE AWARD

Connor McCallister

MILLER AWARD

Hunter Dunn
Joseph Ivanchuk
Jason Jorgensen

LATZER AWARD

Shaun Brooks

GUND AWARD

Ryan May

GRIMM AWARD

Samuel Becker
Ryan May
Andrew Barringhaus
Braxton Schmedeke
Cole Hopper

BAUER AWARD

Brenden Keeling
Luke Mirly
Nicholas Newman
Wyatt Moore

MARKLAND AWARD

Levi Gooding
John Becker
Michael Ward

RAMSAY AWARD

Nathen Gober

WHITE AWARD

Alex Ketcherside
Carson Sinnard
Austin Buck
Marcus Kjar
Dominic Pona
Andrew Dutton

MYERS/COLOMBATTO

Joseph Walton
Braxton Schmedeke

ALYEA AWARD

Payton Labbee

ALYEA ACHIEVEMENT

Joseph Ivanchuk

ROLLER AWARD

Blake Moore

GPA Scholarships

WHITE GPA AWARD

3.8 – 4.0

Dominic Pona
Dakota Gotsch
Braxton Schmedeke
Cole Hopper
Samuel Becker

3.5 – 3.79

Gavin Walker
Timothy Mcleod
Andrew Dutton
Andrew Barringhaus
Luke Mirly
Carson Sinnard

3.2 – 3.49

Joseph Werley
Alex Ketcherside
Marcus Kjar
Austin Buck
Alex Whombacher

SCHOLASTIC AWARD

3.8 – 4.0

Daniel Walsh
Quinten Zak
Nick Reilly
Schaffer Stevens
Andrew Pappas
Jack Nymetz
Collin York
Harrison Hunt
Levi Goodin
Matthew Gaston
Ryan May

3.5 – 3.79

Benton Brightwell
Lane Grelle
Hayden Greene
Wyatt Moore
Joseph Ivanchuk
Joseph Breen
Gabriel Nuera

3.2 – 3.49

Ryan Haskin
Alex Burns
Micheal Radlund
Samuel Bonderer

MEMORIAL Awards

WOLF AWARD

Daniel Walsh

THOMPSON AWARD

Samuel Bonderer

RIPPET AWARD

Dominic Ponciroli

MORGAN AWARD

Luke Mirly

HUBBARD AWARD

Dominic Ponciroli

KRUGER AWARD

Joseph Breen
Joseph Schweer

INTRAMURAL ATHLETE AWARD

Samuel Bonderer

FRISBEE AWARD

Connor McCallister

DREBES AWARD

Nick Reilly

GEVECKER AWARD

Matthew Hornbeck
Hunter Dunn
Keaton Roof
Oscar Sargent

ONLINE DONATION PORTAL NOW ACTIVE!

The Alpha Kappa Educational Foundation is ready to announce it has successfully opened the new online donation portal. Donations can now be made using a credit card and either a one-time or reoccurring basis! The portal found at <https://akpiques.org/donate/> makes your gift of assisting the Alpha Kappa's continued edge in building tomorrow's professional and societal leaders an easy and rewarding process. All donations to the Alpha Kappa Educational Foundation are 501(c)(3) tax-deductible. A written acknowledgement of the contribution will be returned upon successful receipt of your gift. The portal also gives the option to dedicate your donation in honor or in memory of someone or support a specific scholarship. We encourage you to check it out and ensure our continued impact for future leaders. Thank you in advance!

AKPIQUES.ORG/DONATE

LUNCH FOR GRADUATING SENIORS

In the past we have held lunch for graduating seniors in their down time on graduation day. The active chapter along with the Alumni Association, headed by Will Wyne, decided to cater food for them. Several seniors and their families enjoyed the food and had good conversation about the future and Alpha Kappa. The event saw a nice turnout and the active chapter hopes this can happen again.



ALUMNI VS ACTIVE CHAPTER SOFTBALL EVENT

The event was the first time something like this happened in a number of years. The active chapter and alumni met at the Schuman Park baseball field to play two games of slow pitch softball and a homerun derby if the games were won once by each team. The first game the active chapter came out swinging and beating the alumni as they were just getting started and warmed up. The second game saw a major turn as the alumni came out full force with several home runs and a better defensive game. We then competed in a homerun derby to decide the winner of the event. The alumni unfortunately lost barely by two home runs and it was a super close outing coming down to the last pitches. In total we had around 10 alumni show out and about 20 men from the active chapter. The active chapter looks forward to doing more events similar to this and can't wait until next time.



Whatcha been up to?

Send us your news to be featured in the Kapers!

- Engagement
- Career Promotion
- Birth Announcement
- Wedding
- Awards
- World Travel

Email: Jonathan Berra jmbgxc@mst.edu

PARTH SHAH RECEIVES

WOLF LOYALTY AWARD

The 2021 RV Wolf was awarded to Parth Shah, a 2009 initiate of Alpha Kappa. Brother Shah graduated with a BS in Information Science & Technology. While in Rolla, Parth served the chapter in numerous positions, including SMC, IMC and Director of Recruitment.

Upon graduating in 2012, Parth immediately joined the AK Educational Foundation and has held the role of Director for the past 10 years. Through his role as director, his main responsibility is to analyze data provided by the active chapter to award scholarships twice annually at Homecoming and Founder's Day.

Parth is married and lives in the St. Louis area with his wife, Jessica, and his young children, Devin and Mila. He works as a Salesforce Delivery Manager for Accenture Federal Services.

Here is an excerpt from Brother Shah's speech at Founder's Day 2022:

For me, staying involved with the fraternity by helping Keith and Dale award scholarships to you all was really the least I could do after reaping all the benefits during my 4 years there. I pushed hard to become a member of AKEF as soon as I graduated because I knew as life goes on and work, marriage, kids, etc. happen and life gets in the way of giving back the way I knew I wanted to. So, I also wanted to thank the AKEF Board - and especially Keith and Dale for giving me the opportunity.

I'm a big believer that you get out of things what you put in - before I came to Rolla, I was very much an introvert who avoided most social settings outside of my closest friends. I took college as a fresh start and was given a bid to join Pi Kappa Alpha and never looked back. My father even gave a speech at my wedding and specifically called out how he felt like I changed from a boy to a man after my term as President at AK.

With my time in Alpha Kappa I served the chapter in a bunch of different roles, but the one that I think really broke me out of my shell and turned me into the man I am today was my semester/summer I spent as Rush Chairman or Director of Recruitment. As a 19-year-old kid, giving elevator pitches to parents and cold calling recruits on their home phone numbers is a type of experience I don't think you could get at any other campus organization.



Parth Shah (AK'09)

So, with that I hope all of you realize the opportunity in front of you today and get out of Alpha Kappa what you put into it and then some. Being in the setting that you are now is really something anyone can only experience for 4-5 years of your life. You'll mature from boys to men and form lifelong relationships — more than half of the groomsmen at my wedding were my pledge brothers and I wouldn't have had it any other way.

Distinguished ALPHA KAPPA ALUMNI



DR. TONY WOLTJEN

The Distinguished Alumni Award went to Tony Woltjen. Here is a quick bio from him:

After graduating from University of Missouri-Rolla, I was awarded a teaching associateship at the University of Minnesota to study biomedical engineering. Just before matriculating at the University of Minnesota I married my wife, Kathy, of 51 years. During my time at the University of Minnesota I decided I wanted to become a Medical Doctor. I went to Medical School at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Then I did my residency in internal medicine and my fellowship

in gastroenterology at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. I abandoned the idea of academic medicine and went into private practice in Kansas City as a gastroenterologist. I have served on various medical boards, been recognized as an outstanding clinical teacher of medical residents, published a few scientific articles and served in hospital leadership roles. We adopted two boys Jason and Jeffrey. I practiced gastroenterology for 35 years during which time I built two ambulatory endoscopy centers. I retired six years ago. Now my time is spent staying physically fit, snow skiing, mountain biking, and playing tennis. What a wonderful life it has been!

THE SELECTION PROCESS

The selection of the Alpha Kappa Distinguished Brother is made by men who have received this award in previous years. They would greatly appreciate suggestion of names to consider for future years.

Brothers suggested should have had outstanding professional career accomplishments. Service to Pi Kappa Alpha and/or MST is not necessary.

Please forward suggestions to:
Bob Brockhaus
bob@brockhausgroup.net

PREVIOUS DISTINGUISHED ALPHA KAPPA BROTHERS ARE:

Enoch Needles — Founder and Partner, HNTB Corporation

Melvin Carnahan — Governor, State of Missouri

Ronald Miller — Vice-President, Proctor and Gamble

Steve Wunning — Group, President, Caterpillar

Bryan Stirrat — Founder and President, BAS and Associates

Dr. Robert Markland — Professor and Administrator,
University of South Carolina

Dr. Robert Brockhaus — Entrepreneur and Coleman
Endowed Chair, Saint Louis University

Dr. Keith Wedge — Brigadier General, United States Army

Dr. Tony Woltjen — Founder, Builder, Medicine Boards

New Chapter Advisor

ANDREW WYLIE

Greetings from your NEW friendly neighbor Chapter Advisor! For those of you who do not know me, my name is Andrew Wylie. I pledged to Alpha Kappa in the fall of 1992 and was initiated in the Spring of 1993. During my time at Alpha Kappa, I was a member of the ritual team, House Manager, Rush Chairman, and Student Ambassador on campus. I graduated in 1997 with a degree in Geological Engineering.

After nearly 23 years in the oil field with Halliburton, my career ended. Near the end of 2020, my wife Missy and I decided to move back to Rolla with our two girls (Gilleen - 14 and Lila - 9) to be closer to family and start a new phase of our lives. It has been a bit of a culture shock moving from Houston back to Rolla, but we enjoy spending time outdoors, hunting, and fishing here in the Ozarks!

Once my family was settled in Rolla, I reached out to Dr. Chris Ramsey to ask if I could get involved with the Chapter again. Chris welcomed me warmly and I took on the role of Associate Chapter advisor under Chris' guidance. In October of 2021, Chris asked me if I was willing to take on the role of Chapter Advisor and that he would be announcing his retirement effective March 1, 2022. I told Chris that it would be an honor to follow in his and Dr. Robert V. Wolfs' footsteps.

With that being said, I have some very large shoes to fill! Two great men have led as Chapter Advisor for nearly 70 years! I'm very eager and excited to assume the role of Chapter Advisor. The thing that excites me the most is seeing the young men of the Chapter just as eager to have me as their Chapter Advisor.



Andrew Wylie (AK'92)

I cannot thank Dr. Chris Ramsey enough for giving me this opportunity. It has already been some of the most rewarding and fulfilling work I have done. It is great being in the house again and spending time with the Active Members. I'm looking forward to many more years of service and watching these young men grow!

If you are passing through Rolla, I would love to see you and introduce you to the strong active chapter members we currently have. Please feel free to reach out to me at any time.

In the bonds,

Andrew Wylie
andrew.w.wylie@gmail.com
(337) 207-8561



The current members of the House Corporation are as follows: Bob Brockhaus, President; Dave Zimmerman, Vice President; Jim Murphy, Treasurer; Andy Reitter, Secretary; Steve Biederman, Chris Ramsey, and Bob Kallemeier.

While all members of the House Corporation play a significant role, no member spends more time and provides more assistance with the physical facility than Steve Biederman. Steve leads the summer maintenance and improvement program where he makes weekly trips from St. Louis to ensure that everything is proceeding efficiently. Steve's experience as the former president of a major construction company is crucial in his role of maintaining and improving the Chapter House. The House Corporation's relentless efforts to the chapter are a major factor in why Alpha Kappa is so strong.

If you have interest in serving on the House Corporation in any capacity, please reach out. Any help is greatly appreciated! The Active Chapter and House Corporation welcome all alumni to return whenever possible to see our home and to meet the men who are all of our Brothers. We look forward to seeing you at Founder's Day!

HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS

The chapter house is one of the most admired aspects of the Alpha Kappa Chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha. It has provided generations of AK Pikes the necessary facilities to sleep, study, and relax comfortably. No chapter house is perfect though, which is why the Active Chapter and House Corporation continue to improve the facility as needed. With the rapid decline in chapter membership and increase in competition in the greek housing market at Missouri S&T, the Active Chapter identified some key facilities of the chapter house that are overdue for renovation and/or replacement.

In October, THC Drew Barringhaus and house manager Andrew Dutton presented a detailed list of improvements deemed necessary for the future of

Alpha Kappa's growth. This included renovating spaces such as the bathrooms, patio, weekend kitchen area, TV room, and more. It also included smaller, often ignored parts of the chapter house such as the public area lighting, cleaning closets, staircases, etc.

These improvements are of utmost importance for the continuation of the Alpha Kappa Chapter. In terms of recruitment and quality of new members, too many good men are lost to other fraternities simply due to housing.

After much discussion and planning between the House Corporation and Active Chapter, the House Corporation has secured a partnership with Hoener Architects to move forward with the renovations. With Hoener Architect's vast experience in educational construction and design, Alpha Kappa is confident in their ability to provide the best possible work. These spaces are long overdue for renovation, and their completion will allow Pike to once again be competitive in the S&T fraternity housing market.

The Active Chapter kickstarted these ambitions by making some investments of its own into new chapter amenities for current and future members to enjoy. In previous years, there have always been different ideas on what to do with the TV Room and prior Weekend Kitchen spaces. The TV Room was rearranged to more efficiently utilize the space, moving the "TV" area into a more secluded location. The remainder of the space was filled with an air hockey table, foosball table, dartboard, arcade machine, and a new ping pong table. The chapter also purchased a 10 seat poker table that was setup in the prior weekend kitchen area. All of these improvements were made in direct correlation with the future room design once it is renovated. The chapter is also having the 9 foot pool table refelted, leveled, and repaired as necessary. Other notable smaller investments the chapter made included a new printer, new kitchen equipment and upgrades, a chest freezer, new cleaning equipment, and much more.

PIKE Gets A FIRE TRUCK

Among PIKE Chapters nationally, a popular brotherhood event is owning, restoring, and maintaining a vintage fire truck. The tradition of the fire truck became popular among Pikes in the mid-1950s when the University of New Hampshire chapter members restored a 1919 American LaFrance truck and drove it to the Convention. After reading more into the numerous PIKE Chapters nationwide that own fire trucks, I thought to myself, "Why couldn't the men of Alpha Kappa own a Fire Truck?"

Conveniently, a member of the Miami Chapter reached out to a group of various PIKE executives that I was a part of saying they had a 1975 Ford fire truck for sale. We immediately jumped on it, and were fully prepared to drive down to Miami to pick it up. Unfortunately, due to various circumstances, the purchase fell through and we were once again on the hunt for a fire truck.

Being that I am a member of various antique fire truck groups on Facebook, I decided it might be worth a shot to reach out and explain the situation and what purposes Alpha Kappa had for wanting a fire truck. The response was incredible. I received over one hundred messages, comments, and shares from individuals who either had a fire truck they were willing to part with or had advice to give. One message stood out to me in particular though; a message from the Fire Chief at the Waynesville Rural Fire Protection District. After consulting his Board of Directors, Fire Chief Doug Yurecko informed me that they were willing to let go of their 1971 American LaFrance pumper truck. I then asked if they had a price in mind, to which he told me that it was the Alpha Kappa Chapter's to have, at no cost. The generosity and kindness of the Waynesville Rural Fire Protection District will never be forgotten by myself or the men of Alpha Kappa. During finals week, I along with Brothers Gotsch, Dutton, and Kjar went down to the Waynesville Fire Department and worked on bringing this 1971 American LaFrance back to life. After a couple afternoons of wrenching alongside the fire fighters, she was up and running again! The fire truck has a 1500 gpm Hale

Pump and is powered by a 71 series Detroit Diesel Engine mated to an Allison Automatic Transmission, so it is sure to last.

Now some of you may be asking yourselves, "What is the true purpose of Alpha Kappa owning this fire truck?" Over the years, it has become a custom among PIKE Chapters abroad to host the annual "Pi Kappa Alpha Fireman's Challenge" to support various philanthropic organizations. The Alpha Kappa Chapter has its own Fireman's Challenge every fall to benefit the First Responders Children's Foundation. The principal use of this 1971 American LaFrance fire truck will be to raise money for this, our main philanthropic cause. The First Responders Children's Foundation provides financial support to children who have lost a parent in the line of duty as well as families enduring significant financial hardship due to tragic circumstances. Our goal is to increase our yearly donations to benefit this cause, which is why we were looking to invest some of our funds into a fire truck to help enhance opportunities for donations. We have many ideas in order to accomplish this including hosting an annual fire truck pull, building out the rear portion to be a grilling station and selling BBQ, and more. In honor of the Waynesville Fire Department's generosity towards this cause, the Alpha Kappa Chapter made an additional \$500 donation to the First Responder's Children's Foundation in their name. Aside from philanthropy, we would also like to use it as an advertising tool for recruitment as well as drive it in the annual Best Ever St. Pats Parade!

If any alumni would like to assist with this project through donation of time, knowledge, or sponsorship through funding, please reach out to me at 636-432-2610 or ajb4nn@umsystem.edu. We will have a decal made for the fire truck dedicated to the Waynesville Fire Department and any businesses or alumni who sponsor the project to help make this possible! If you are an alumni in the Rolla area that would like to help store this fire truck, please also reach out! We are excited to see what this fire truck will bring for the First Responders Children's Foundation and the men of Alpha Kappa!





CHAPTER HOUSE NEWS

2022 Summer Renovations

This summer the chapter house received some much needed security and aesthetic improvements. The exterior of the house received a fresh coat of paint to its faded facade. The house now looks almost as attractive as it was when brand new from the exterior point of view. Early in the semester, Securix completed installation of a new exterior security camera system. The Avigilon system uses

advanced technology to detect unusual movements, and is based on the same system the university uses. This new system will hopefully help with the plague of car break-ins chapter members have been victim to. Although there are still some bugs to work out, the Active Chapter and House Corporation are satisfied with the increased security to chapter property. The front door also received a fresh coat of stain.



Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity

FOUNDER'S DAY *Schedule*

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. For further information contact SMC Gavin Walker by email at stbphn@mst.edu.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3RD

All Day

Open House
Alumni Dinner

SATURDAY, MARCH 4TH

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

12:00 P.M.

Lunch

1:00 P.M.

Keynote Speaker

SUNDAY, MARCH 5TH

All Day

Open House

Please help the active chapter update the alumni database by either filling out the "Alumni Update" below, or by contacting Jonathan Berra by email at jmbgxcg@mst.edu. This information is not given to us by the University, and must be obtained in another way. Additionally, feel free to contact the alumni relations chairman if you have any comments or article suggestions for the *Kapers*. 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*.

☐ 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

FOUNDER'S DAY 2023 — R.S.V.P.

Alpha Kappa will be holding a lunch during Founder's Day. Please let us know if you plan to attend.

☐ ATTENDING ☐ MIGHT ATTEND ☐ NOT ATTENDING

Pi Kappa Alpha
Alpha Kappa Chapter
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Rolla, MO 65401

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Greek Week Champs 2022