

Kapers



The 115th
Best Ever St. Pat's

Page 2

Founder's Day
Alumni Dinner

Page 8

Perrin Roller
Awarded

Page 22



- ◆ **Active Chapter**
Pi Kappa Alpha
Alpha Kappa Chapter
Rolla, MO 65402
- ◆ **Educational Foundation**
Alpha Kappa
Educational Foundation
P.O. Box 835
Rolla, MO 65402
- ◆ **Alumni Association**
Alpha Kappa
Alumni Association
P.O. Box 460195
St. Louis, MO 63146
- ◆ **House Corporation**
Alpha Kappa
House Corporation
P.O. Box 85
Rolla, MO 65402

www.akpikes.org

Inside this issue

CHAPTER NEWS

- 1 **President's Desk:** Sam Bonderer (AK'20) outlines the year at Alpha Kappa
- 2 **The 115th Best Ever St. Pat's:** Alpha Kappa competes for the first time in many years
- 4 **Greek Sing:** Alpha Kappa's band competes again in this annual event
- 5 **Mom's Day:** The annual Mom's Day event was filled with memorable activities
- 6 **Community Service:** Brothers help Kaleidoscope, Great Circle and Camp Lakewood
- 8 **Campus Involvement:** First Ever Founder's Day Alumni Dinner held
- 9 **Chapter Advisor Letter:** Andrew Wylie updates and encourages alumni involvement
- 10 **Brotherhood:** Bonding during the annual Ski Trip
- 11 **Philanthropy:** Support for the First Responder's Children's Foundation
- 12 **Intramurals:** Alpha Kappa leaves their mark this season
- 13 **Commencement:** Alpha Kappa proudly graduates 11 men
- 14 **New Initiates:** The new pledge class of Spring 2023
- 15 **Rush:** Alpha Kappa's success in recruitment
- 16 **Leadership:** Meet your executive board and house leaders
- 24 **Campus Involvement:** Brothers serve an active role on campus

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

- 18 **Scholarships**
Brothers express their gratitude for scholarship received
- 19 **Scholastic Awards**
A complete list of scholarship recipients generously given to the members of Alpha Kappa

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

- 20 **Alumni News**
Keep up-to-date with AK Alumni
- 22 **Wolf Loyalty Award**
Perrin Roller shares his excellent speech in recognition of receiving the RV Wolf Loyalty Award

Kapers Contact Info for Next Issue

President J.T. Becker jtb7bz@mst.edu	Rush Carson Sinnard cds6db@mst.edu	Alumni Relations Keaton Roof kar4cf@mst.edu
Internal Vice President Jonathan Berra jmbgxx@mst.edu	Parent's Club Erik Wyatt ejwnq9@mst.edu	

President's Letter

My path to presidency all started with one saying, "one man can make the change, and one man can make a difference". When I pledged here in the Fall of 2020, in the middle of Covid-19, the only thing I sought after was making my impact, and making my legacy known here at Alpha Kappa. I began my executive run by taking on the role of Director of Recruitment between freshman and sophomore year, followed by Treasurer, VP of Membership Development, then finally President. I knew that as a consistent leader of our chapter, I had to be someone that others could see as their role model.

Going from spring to fall recruitment will always be a struggle, and has been since Covid-19 hit our community. Although we have seen one of the lowest recruitment numbers in a decade, our hopes for the future are still as high as ever. With Carson Sinnard leading our recruitment efforts, as well as having our entire chapter support, we are getting dozens of names generated, a new summer scholarship presentation, different incentives for signing bids early, new banners/brochure/canopy/polos, and utilizing student organizations to recruit better leaders. As the head of this fraternity, I chose to dive back into the rush committee and try to help build a chapter that can not only survive the near future, but flourish under younger leadership.

Externally, Cole Hopper has been extremely busy trying to improve some of the most important aspects of our fraternity. Externally, we have doubled the amount of community service events as in previous semesters, focused on increased involvement within campus organizations, ranked highest in intramurals (as usual), seen a huge increase in philanthropy dollars raised (making us arguably the most philanthropic organization on campus), and increased our social presence in the greek community.

Internally, we have dedicated all of our time to focusing on our alumni, our academics, and our brotherhood. This year we have had at least one brotherhood event per week, and three successful alumni events for this semester (Founder's Day, Basketball Tournament, and Alumni Appreciation Dinner). The biggest accomplishment has been our scholarship program, where we implemented a new files system, Fantasy GPA teams, specific degree captains, a buddy system for struggling members, and incentives for high-achieving members. Our GPA will hopefully be around the top three on campus



Sam Bonderer (AK'20)
SMC, Spring 2023

compared to being almost last in the previous semester, and something we have focused on for the entire semester.

Our house itself has had some pretty rough couple of months with our pipes bursting over winter break, our sound system going out, and the house needing a complete overhaul. Drew Barringhaus and Andrew Dutton have helped organize not only the efforts towards fixing all of these damages, but cleaning and updating different parts of the house. We have gotten a new felt for our pool table, completely revitalized our old "weekend kitchen" into a new poker room, made new signs and decorations for the walls, added new lighting fixtures around the house, and reorganized every cabinet and closet in the entire house;

Even with all of these new renovations and ideas we've been able to achieve thus far, it still doesn't describe what the men in this room have come together to accomplish. I have never felt a better sense of brotherhood and of belonging than with this group of men. These guys have seen the highest of the highs; they've won Smythe Awards, had amazing recruitment with 130+ guys in the chapter and a full house, and had some of the most fun parties and socials no other fraternity can rival. Yet these guys have also been through the lows; they've seen Alpha Kappa break our 18-year Smythe Award winning streak, the covid pandemic, shallow recruitment, low budgets, hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of water damage, and an empty house so far that we've had to close off the New Addition and ask the Housing Corporation to help us afford rent. Yet, no matter the struggle, and no matter the odds, these guys have fought through.

As a chapter, we have come together as brothers, and as one, to become what we once were and the men in this room, through hardship and through adversity, have formed a bond of fraternal brotherhood that cannot and will not be broken. I'm not sure if that's what it means to be friends or to be brothers, but I know that's what it means to be a Pike.

Sam Bonderer (AK'20)
SMC, Spring 2023



THE 115th BEST EVER ST. PAT'S



For the first time in many years, the brothers of Alpha Kappa competed in the annual St. Pat's celebration. The celebrations began with Green Fridays held every Friday up until the week of Pats. Green Fridays started with a song parody performance by the chapter which was then followed by a fun game to compete in.

As St. Pats drew nearer, the annual snake invasion event was held the week before. Brothers Cole Hopper, Nick Reilly along with New Initiates Oscar Sargent, Keagan Walters, Hunter Dunn, Dennis Cloud, Matthew Hornbeck, and Aiden Laubinger participated by painting and carving Shillelaghs and then "killing" snakes in the snake pits.

The week of Pats was kicked off with Follies. Thank you to the brothers that volunteered for these events: crazy beard, greenest person, top ten list, costume contest, tug of war, most sweatshirts in a minute, pie eating contest, most garters in a minute, fatal vision egg toss, leprechaun look-alike, show shillelagh and vintage merchandise. A special thanks goes out to Brigadier General Keith Wedge for letting Alpha Kappa present his 1965 St. Pats Sweatshirt for the vintage Merchandise competition.

Gonzo and Games filled the second half of the week. Thank you to the brothers that volunteered for these events: mechanical bull, lasso toss, horse

racers, greased pig relay, shillelagh toss, talent show, sharpshooter and horseshoes. Gonzo and Games was highlighted with a second place finish in Shillelagh toss by brother Stephens and a special thanks goes out to the brothers that volunteered to work our stand at Ganzo Carnival.

Pats was capped off in spectacular fashion as Alpha Kappa marched in the Rolla St. Pats Parade. This year our float was a covered wagon fitting into the theme "Pats on the Prairie". The float consisted of a white cover made out of pumped tissue paper featuring PiKA in garnet and gold on either side. Putting in more than 100 man hours of work, the float was painstakingly put together through the hard work of brothers Andrew Dutton, Marcus Kjar, and Dakota Gotsch with the help of the entire chapter. Alpha Kappa was awarded third place in the float competition for our float "Wagon of Dreams."

Thank you to all those that participated in the 115th Best Ever St. Pats.



The Alpha Kappa Band playing their hearts out.



The Brothers of Alpha Kappa with their mothers.

GREEK SING

In late April, it was time for Alpha Kappa to compete yet again in the Greek Sing competition. After last year's phenomenal performance, the chapter looked to repeat its success in this year's "Woodstock" themed event. This year, the band consisted of five players, Levi Goodin (AK'19) on keyboard, Cole Hopper (AK'21) on lead guitar, Andrew Dutton (AK'21) on bass guitar, Harrison Hunt (AK'19) on drums, and the chapter's dream girl, Reiley Clark of Chi Omega, on vocals. Together, the band spent countless hours practicing to prepare their two songs, "Rhiannon" by Fleetwood Mac and "House of the Rising Sun" by the Animals. The event was put on by IFC at the Tater Patch and featured a panel of judges

consisting of various campus faculty. The cold day did not prevent the chapter from showing out to support their band. More than 30 actives cheered the band on for their fun and electric performance that had the crowd buzzing. The band's performance ended up ranking 5th overall among all of the fraternities and sororities combined, but the real crowning achievement was that the band received hardware in the form of the "Best Instrumentals" award, citing brother Goodin's stellar keyboard solos. All in all, the band had an awesome performance and had a lot of fun playing for a large audience. They cannot wait to see what next year's theme has in store for them.

MOM'S DAY

On Saturday April 22nd, the chapter hosted its annual Mom's Day event. The day was filled with many fun and memorable activities. The day started off with the mothers and their sons competing in a scavenger hunt around campus. The scavenger hunt consisted of finding various locations around campus where the mom and their son had to take a selfie in front of. This was great because we all know mothers like their pictures. Congratulations to Brother Burnett and his mother on winning the scavenger hunt. After the scavenger hunt, everyone enjoyed lunch that was catered from Panera. There were many delicious options to choose from. Following those events, the

chapter tie dyed shirts out on the patio. All the active members and their mothers made a shirt in spirit of the Greek Sing performance later in the evening which was woodstock themed. Making the shirts was a huge blast to do with the mom's. The final event which concluded the day was Greek Sing. All of the participants in mom's day went over to the Tater Patch where we would watch our Greek Sing band perform. The band did a tremendous job in performing, and it was awesome to see all the mothers come show their support as well. This year was a huge success for Mom's Day, and we look forward to having an even more successful one in the upcoming years.

KALEIDOSCOPE DISCOVERY LEARNING CENTER • ROLLA, MISSOURI



Brothers Isaac Legene and Matthew Hornbeck provide technical assistance.

The brothers of Alpha Kappa volunteered their time and skills to support the Kaleidoscope Discovery Center in Rolla for a community service event. The Kaleidoscope Discovery Center is a non-profit organization that provides educational opportunities for children to learn about science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The center offers a wide range of programs that aim to enhance children's understanding of these critical areas and inspire them to pursue careers

in these fields. The brothers recognized the importance of these programs and were eager to support the center by organizing and updating the various learning tools available to children. The event involved several tasks, including organizing Spike Lego learning kits, updating Spike coding software, and organizing several rooms to provide more opportunities for kids in the surrounding counties.

GREAT CIRCLE • ST. JAMES, MISSOURI

The gentlemen of Alpha Kappa embarked on a community service event to the Great Circle in St. James, Missouri. The purpose of the event was to assist with ground keeping at the facility, which included raking leaves and cleaning up the grounds. Great Circle is a non-profit organization that provides a range of behavioral health services and support for individuals and families in Missouri. The organization operates residential treatment facilities, provides counseling services, and offers a range of other programs to help

people overcome challenges and improve their quality of life. The brothers were eager to help the Great Circle in any way they could. They recognized the important work the organization does and wanted to give back to the community by volunteering their time and energy. By assisting with the ground keeping, they were able to make a tangible difference in the appearance of the facility and contribute to the overall well-being of the people who utilize its services



CAMP LAKEWOOD • POTOSI, MISSOURI

The brothers of Alpha Kappa once again volunteered their time and efforts to help YMCA Camp Lakewood in Potosi, Missouri. The service trip was aimed at helping to improve the facilities and environment for the camp, which is a popular destination for outdoor enthusiasts and summer campers. The brothers arrived on Friday and upon arrival were split into three different groups, each tasked with a different project for the following Saturday. The first and most important project was painting several cabins around the facility. The cabins were in need of a fresh coat of paint, and the brothers were happy to help. They worked diligently to ensure that the cabins looked as good as new. The second group was responsible for clearing debris and brush from the various trails around the camp. This was no small task, as there were numerous trails that needed attention. The brothers put in a great deal of effort and worked tirelessly to ensure that the trails were clean and safe for hikers and campers. The third and final group was tasked with digging holes to plant new trail markers around the camp. These trail markers would help to guide hikers and campers along the various trails and ensure that they didn't get lost. The brothers worked hard to dig the holes and plant the markers, and they were pleased with the results even with the unfavorable weather and ground conditions. This trip was not only a good community service event in the sense that a lot was accomplished, but also the brothers were able to bond and strengthen their brotherhood. The sense of accomplishment and being provided a cabin and three hot meals, the brothers are sure to return to YMCA Camp Lakewood in the future.



Above: Brothers Trey Beckham, Earnest Burnett, and Dominic Pona painting a closet.

Top: The Brothers, having finished a hard days work, take a group photo.



Brother Wylie gives a short speech to the Brothers and guests.

FIRST EVER FOUNDER'S DAY ALUMNI DINNER

This year's Founders Day weekend celebration was held on Friday, March 3rd and Saturday, March 4th. The weekend was kicked off with our first ever Alumni Appreciation Dinner Friday night. The event had a very strong turnout with around 30 alumni and their wives attending. This was led by a 30 year reunion of his own 1992-93 Initiate class by Chapter Advisor Andy Wylie. The Brothers and the guests shared a fantastic brisket dinner, then heard short speeches from the alumni. It was great to have the alumni at the house and hear about their time in Pi Kappa Alpha as well as their lives afterward. The Chapter plans to host another Alumni Appreciation dinner and reunion this coming fall as part of the homecoming celebration. Overall the dinner was a fantastic success and a wonderful way to start Founder's Day celebration weekend. Saturday morning started with coffee and

donuts for the alumni, as the Housing Corporation, Educational Foundation, and Executive Council met to discuss important matters about the house. Once the meetings finished everyone gathered for the scholarship and award presentation. The brothers heard short speeches about the chapter and house from each of the Activer Chapter President, Sam Bonderer, and Housing Corporation President, Bob Brockhaus. Afterwards the chapter heard a speech from Perrin R. Roller (AK'80), alumni of the year award winner. He talked about his life and what Pi Kappa Alpha has meant to him in his career. Then the annual scholarship presentation was given with the Educational Foundation helping to give scholarships to many deserving Brothers. Finally the weekend's celebration was wrapped up with the brothers and alumni sharing a fantastic pasta lunch together.

A Note From Your Chapter Advisor

Greetings from your Chapter Advisor! This Spring marked the 30th anniversary of my initiation into the Alpha Kappa Chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha. To celebrate this occasion, I reached out to my Fall '92 and Spring '93 brothers to ask them to head back to Rolla for a reunion during Founder's Day on March 3rd and 4th.

We had a great turnout with 12 brothers returning in total. Many of us included our lovely wives in the celebration, there were lots of laughs, stories of the past, and a great time had by all!

The celebration began Friday mid-afternoon with a cocktail hour at the Locker Room, followed by a tour of the Design Center with Chris Ramsay and dinner at the Chapter House. It was wonderful to listen to each of my brothers introduce themselves to the Active Chapter. The experience brought back a flood of memories that included not divorcing the salt & pepper and napkins placed in the chair when excusing yourself from the table. Yes, I still do these things today!

We were joined by several other Alumni during the dinner, and I would encourage all of you to return to Alpha Kappa for dinner next year. Saturday morning began early with coffee and donuts followed by the Housing Corporation meeting. Many of you may not be aware, the Chapter House suffered four pipe bursts over the winter break. Temperatures in Rolla reached -8 F with a -35 F wind chill. Approximately 30 buildings in Rolla had pipes burst during this cold snap. Unfortunately, our house suffered quite a bit of damage, but we have already started putting it back together.

Founder's Day concluded with a inspiring speech by our 2022 R.W. Wolf Loyalty Award winner, Perrin Roller, and 81 scholarships awarded by the AKEF to members of the Active Chapter. Another wonderful lunch was served, and fellowship ensued as Alumni and Actives played cornhole, pool, and several other games. I will speak for my class and say many of them were extremely impressed with the current Active Chapter members and we thank you for the hospitality that was shown to us.

The evening ended with dinner at the world-famous Alex's Pizza Palace and a few more beverages at Hopper's Pub. We said our goodbyes knowing it will not be 30 more years before we see each other again. It was wonderful to feel the love and friendship that so many of us have missed. I have truly been reinvigorated by my involvement with Alpha Kappa and the reunion with my brothers solidified my love for the Fraternity.

I strongly encourage each of you to return to Rolla when you can. Become involved with the Fraternity again. You won't regret it! I will be reaching out to the Fall '93 and Spring '94 classes to carry on this tradition. I can't wait! 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

SKI TRIP



In January, the gentleman of Alpha Kappa once again hit the slopes during winter break. This year, the brothers decided to make a trip of their own up north instead of going on the university sponsored trip out west. The week after finals, 11 Alpha Kappa brothers made the 13 hour journey to Lutsen Mountains in northeastern Minnesota. Being right off of Lake Superior, the views were absolutely stunning, and with over two feet of fresh snowfall the week prior, the conditions were prime! Brothers hit the slopes for four fun-filled days of skiing, snowboarding, and nighttime activities. Although the skill level of each brother was different, with many being first-timers, everyone enjoyed themselves and was able to make the most out of the trip. By the end of the trip, everyone was exhausted and ready to head home. It was a journey indeed, filled with midnight car breakdowns on the way up and white-out blizzard conditions on the way back. One thing is for certain though, the memories made and experiences had will never be forgotten by these brothers!



FIRST RESPONDER'S CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

On February 14th, the Alpha Kappa chapter raised money for First Responder's Children's Foundation by making Valentine's Day boxes with many sweet treats inside.

The chapter prepared orders two days in advance to make sure that every box was filled with chocolate covered strawberries and rice crispy treats. Brother Michael Radlund captured some moments of brothers coming together and having fun making the special treats. The total amount raised for this event was \$600. The Alpha Kappa chapter plans to continue this successful event for next year.



RIGHT: Brothers prepare the rice crispy treats and chocolate covered strawberries.



The gentlemen of Alpha Kappa had quite the semester for athletics. With a variety of Pikes A and co rec games to be played, lets take a look at how everyone faired.

We started off the semester with basketball. The team was led by President Sam Bonderer at the point and Colin Pepper down low. The two of them help to lead the squad to the semi-finals where the team fell to Sig Ep who would go on to finish the season undefeated.

The next sport up was hockey. Looking to avenge their loss in the finals a year ago the boys were determined to come home with the cup this season. Being led by Brad Bowen and Jacob Mendez up front, Nick Reilly and Lukas Bell on the back end, and Nick Newman in goal, the squad managed to go 4-0-1 in the regular season. This had them tied for first place and good enough for the second seed in the playoffs. The boys fought hard in the semi-finals and managed to squeak past a tough nosed Phi Kaps 4-2 to set up a date with Lambda Chi in the finals. It was a very back and forth, chippy game. With the score tied 3-3 at the end of regulation we were headed to sudden death overtime. Both teams were a little hesitant, making sure not give up an odd man rush, but in the end Nathen Gober fired home a shot that found its way through the goalies paraphernalia and into the back of the net! They had done it. Pike had won it in the most exciting way possible.

The Pi-Omega co-rec team a slightly down semester compared to their usual dominance in the past. However, they placed 2nd in the kickball tournament and 3rd in

soccer. They were led by VP JT Becker and dream girl Reiley Clark.

As soon as the calendar flipped to April, it was time for soccer season. Pikes A team was out to punish anyone that stood in their way this season. The team steamrolled through the regular season with a goal differential of +35. This was easily obtained thanks to former S&T striker, Jason Jorgensen, and a stout backline with Nick Sikora and Sam Becker. In the playoffs, the team did not stopped as they beat Beta Sig 8-4 in the finals to go undefeated.

The final sport for the semester was 2v2 sand volleyball. Led by sophomore Hopper, the team went undefeated in the regular season, just narrowly missing the one seed based on points differently. They made it to finals where they fell 2-1 in sets.



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.

LUKAS BELL Mechanical Engineering



Lukas was initiated in the Fall of 2018. He will be working as a Mechanical Engineer at Becs Tchnology in St. Louis.

ADAM KONCKI Mechanical Engineering



Adam was initiated in the Fall of 2017 and was a member of the St. Pat's Board. He plans to seek employment in the St. Louis area.

MICHAEL WARD Aerospace Engineering



Michael was a member of the Fall of 2019 pledge class. He served PIKE as Internal Vice President and Director of Recruitment. He plans to work at Boeing as a systems engineer.

EVAN CORZINE Business



Evan is from the Spring 2019 pledge class. He will be working at Peabody Energy in St. Louis.

RYAN MAY Electrical Engineering



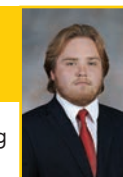
Ryan was initiated in the Fall of 2019. He will be working at Honeywell Federal Manufacturing and Technologies in Kansas City as an Electrical Engineer.

JARED WESTRICH Mechanical Engineering



Jared was initiated in the Fall of 2018. He will be working at Boeing as an Equipment and Tool Engineer. During his time at PIKE, he served as Special Events chair twice.

LANE GRELE Education



Lane is a member of the Spring 2019 pledge class. While in PIKE he served as Internal Vice President and New Member Educator.

GABRIEL NEURA Nuclear Engineering



Gabriel was initiated in the Fall of 2018. After leaving Rolla he plans to move to Maryland to work as a Reactor Engineer for Constellation Energy.

JASON JORGENSEN Aerospace Engineering



Jason was initiated in the Spring of 2019 and played on the Missouri S&T Soccer team. He plans to move to Dallas and work as an Aerospace Engineer.

DANIEL WALSH Civil Engineering



Daniel was initiated in the Fall of 2019 and served as House Manager. He plans to work at Keeley Construction in St. Louis as a project manager.

COLLIN YORK Aerospace Engineering



Collin was initiated in the Spring 2019. He will be working at Lockheed Martin in New Jersey as an Aerospace Engineer.

NEW INITIATES & PLEDGES

This Spring, Alpha Kappa had the privilege of initiating one excellent New Member into the bonds of Pi Kappa Alpha. Being a spring initiate comes with many unforeseen challenges compared to the fall. One of those challenges is creating the same relationships, with a much smaller group of individuals. That being said, the new initiates from last fall did an amazing job working with, and strengthening their relationships with our newest member. The semester began with a weekend of information and fun, for both Ryan and the members of the fall class who would be working together for the semester. During this weekend, goals were created and the executive board talked about what it means to be a good Pike. The main focus derived from the goals centered around improvement of GPA and the growing involvement on campus through organizations. After the first round of tests, Ryan quickly realized that just setting goals was not enough to be successful. Through the use of study hours and the help of the active chapter, the new members were able to get back on track to achieve their goals. Furthermore, new members expressed interest in growing Alpha Kappa's numbers. They were quickly added to the rush committee and began creating relationships with potential new members. The drive and initiative of the new class to build Pi Kappa Alpha is outstanding and we are confident they will be the men to lead this house to new heights.



Brother Ryan Eads

RUSH

As the semester comes to a close, we look back and see how our recruitment team has positively impacted our Fraternity. The Alpha Kappa chapter has never failed to recruit the very best men and this can be seen in our small but mighty Spring 2023 class.

The Spring 2023 class consists of one gentleman, Ryan Eads, who brings his own importance to the chapter and shares the high ideals of a Pike. In his short time here, he has already shown his love for Pike and the members in it. This young man has shown interest in being on the rush committee which insinuates that he has willingness to step up in times of need. Brother Eads will hopefully grow to be a strong leader in recruitment for our chapter.

Shifting gears into Fall of 2023 Recruitment, there are big plans being made for the coming months. This year, there are a total of seven A&R days and three Miner Bash Events where the initial contact with many new members is made. These days are the best chance to meet and talk with those who plan on attending Missouri S&T in the fall and show them what we have to offer. Apart from the A&R days, the recruitment team is hard at work recruiting potential new members through zoom calls, dinners, rush events, and much more. Here at Alpha Kappa, we strive to only rush the best young men. Following initial contact with these potential new members, we strive to find the men who share our high ideals and most importantly show attributes of the infamous SLAG characteristics: Scholars, Leaders, Athletes, Gentlemen. From the young men attending Missouri S&T in the fall of 2023, we will choose the 35 best to join us in our brotherhood.

This summer we have many exciting events planned for rush. We have major events such as a Battlehawks game and a Cardinals game in St. Louis, and a Royals game in Kansas City. Along with these sporting events we will also be reviving an old recruitment tradition. Over the summer we will be hosting a Scholarship Presentation Banquet at a venue in Saint Louis. This event's attendees will consist of active members, potential new member families, parents, and members of the Alpha Kappa Educational Foundation. We are hoping to recruit the best incoming freshman men in order to continue our chapter's excellence here at Missouri S&T and to continue the tradition of academic excellence, athletic dominance, determined leader, and polite gentleman here at the Alpha Kappa Chapter.



Carson Sinnard (AK'21)
Director of Recruitment

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

SMC (PRESIDENT)

Sam Bonderer

NEW MEMBER EDUCATOR

Erik Wyatt

ASSISTANTS

Austin Buck
Trey Beckham

ThC (TREASURER)

Drew Barringhaus

SC (SECRETARY)

Gavin Walker

VP — RISK MANAGEMENT

Austin Buck

DIRECTOR OF RECRUITMENT

Carson Sinnard

RUSH CHAIRMEN

Cole Hopper
Matthew Hornbeck
Alex Ketcherside
Quinn Johnson

RUSH CAPTAINS

Erik Wyatt
Oscar Sargent
Isaac Legene
JT Becker
Austin Buck
Wyatt Burnett
Nick Newman
Dennis Cloud

RECRUITMENT ADVISOR

Sam Bonderer

HOUSE MANAGER

Andrew Dutton

DAILY DUTIES

Keaton Roof

EXTERIOR

Braxton Schmedeke

FIX-IT

Drew Barringhaus
Dakota Gotsch

RECYCLING

Douglass Poertner

STEWARD

Drew Barringhaus
Dakota Gotsch

WEEKEND CLEANING

Dakota Gotsch

ASSISTANT HOUSE MANAGER

Dakota Gotsch

1ST IMC (EXTERNAL VP)

Cole Hopper

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

CHAIRMAN: Keaton Roof

COMMUNITY SERVICE

CHAIRMAN: Keagan Walters

INTRAMURALS

CHAIRMAN: Nick Newman

PHILANTHROPY

CHAIRMAN: Braxton Schmedeke
COMMITTEE: Dominic Ponciroli, Isaac Legene

PUBLIC RELATIONS

CHAIRMAN: Harrison Hunt
COMMITTEE: Oscar Sargent, Michael Radlund

SORORITY RELATIONS

CHAIRMAN: Austin Buck
COMMITTEE: Aiden Laubinger

SOCIAL

CHAIRMAN: Austin Buck
COMMITTEE: Hunter Dunn, Matthew Hornbeck

SPECIAL EVENTS

CHAIRMAN: Sam Becker
COMMITTEE: Wyatt Burnett, Danny Weishaar

2ND IMC (INTERNAL VP)

Dominic Pona

ALUMNI RELATIONS

CHAIRMAN: Jonathan Berra

BROTHERHOOD

CHAIRMAN: Wyatt Burnett
COMMITTEE: Dominic Ponciroli

COMPUTERS

CHAIRMAN: Keaton Roof

GUEST SPEAKERS

CHAIRMAN: Blake Moore

FUNDRAISING

CHAIRMAN: Marcus Kiar

HISTORIAN

CHAIRMEN: Schaffer Stevens, Micheal Radlund

PARENT'S CLUB

CHAIRMAN: Dominic Pona

SCHOLARSHIP

CHAIRMAN: Danny Weishaar, Trey Beckham



Spring 2023 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

EXECUTIVE AT LARGE: JT Becker

Trey Beckham (AK'21)

Having the opportunity to earn scholarships every semester through the very generous Alpha Kappa Educational Foundation is one of the best parts of being in the Alpha Kappa chapter. The financial support I have received through the AKEF has helped me in my pursuit of education and allowed me to further my interests in the house. This semester I received a GPA scholarship and the Al Wentz Chemical Engineering scholarship. I can not thank Al Wentz enough for the opportunity and financial support to help me further my career in chemical engineering. I hope to one day return this generosity and give back to future members to help others in their pursuit of knowledge and continued the success of the Alpha Kappa chapter.



Keagan Walters (AK'22)

This semester I was graciously awarded the Caleb Waldbuesser Scholarship along with a Robert and Nora White GPA scholarship from my previous semester at Pi Kappa Alpha. These scholarships awarded to me by the Alpha Kappa Educational Foundation have been of great assistance while going through life in college. I most certainly would love to thank my brothers for electing me as the recipient of the Caleb Waldbuesser Award, a scholarship awarded to a great brother who is truly involved in serving the community. It is a great honor for me to receive this award for all my hardwork and dedication. Receiving these scholarships continues to motivate me to be the best student and brother I can be.



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

GPA Scholarships

WHITE GPA AWARD

Isaac Legene
Keaton Roof
Aiden Laubinger
Hunter Dunn
Keagan Walters

Oscar Sargent
Matthew Hornbeck
Dennis Cloud
Payton Labbee
Dominic Ponciroli

SCHOLASTIC AWARD 3.8 – 4.0

Dominic Pona
Trey Beckham
Blake Moore
Sam Briar
Ryan May
Cole Hopper
Gavin Walker
Andrew Barringhaus

3.5 – 3.79

Jason Jorgenson
Nathen Gober
Collin York
Michael Ward
Sam Bonderer
Luke Mirly
Nicholas Reilly
Braxton Schmedeke
Joseph Walton
Harrison Hunt
Dakota Gotsch
Thomas Stephens
Carson Sinnard

3.2 – 3.49

Joseph Breen
Erik Wyatt
Daniel Walsh
Jacob Lyons
Levi Goodin
Austin Buck
Daniel Kim
J.T. Becker
Lane Grelle
Jonathan Berra
Lukas Bell

ALUMNI Awards

ALYEA AWARD

Payton Labbee

ALYEA ACHIEVEMENT

Joseph Ivanchuk

BAUER AWARD

Brenden Keeling
Luke Mirly
Nicholas Newman
Wyatt Moore
Erik Wyatt

CHARLES WENTZ, JR. CHEM-E AWARD

Trey Beckham
Nick Reilly

F2K3 SCHOLARSHIP

Carson Sinnard

GRIMM AWARD

Samuel Becker
Ryan May
Andrew Barringhaus
Braxton Schmedeke
Cole Hopper

GUND AWARD

Ryan May

LATZER AWARD

Shaun Brooks

MILLER AWARD

Hunter Dunn
Joseph Ivanchuk
Jason Jorgensen

MARKLAND AWARD

Levi Gooding
John Becker
Michael Ward

MYERS/COLOMBATTO

Joseph Walton
Braxton Schmedeke

RAMSAY AWARD

Nathen Gober

ROLLER AWARD

Blake Moore

CALEB WALDBUESSER AWARD

Keagan Walters

WHITE AWARD

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

MEMORIAL Awards

DREBES AWARD

Nick Reilly

GEVECKER AWARD

Matthew Hornbeck
Hunter Dunn
Keaton Roof
Oscar Sargent

HUBBARD AWARD

Dominic Ponciroli

INTRAMURAL ATHLETE AWARD

Samuel Bonderer

KRUGER AWARD

Joseph Breen
Joseph Schweer

MORGAN AWARD

Luke Mirly

RIPPERT AWARD

Dominic Ponciroli

THOMPSON AWARD

Samuel Bonderer

WOLF AWARD

Daniel Walsh

BILL BUCKLEW

Bill Bucklew completed all the World's Major Marathons, earning the 6-Star World Marjors Medal in 2023. Bill completed Berlin, Boston, Chicago and New York in 2019, when Covid then forced the cancellation of London and Tokyo. Bill completed London in October of 2021 after walking from top to bottom across Great Britain and finally the Tokyo Marathon on March 5, 2023. Bill did all this to raise awareness for Parkinson's disease, which he and his father both were diagnosed with. Bill is the Chairman of UnCorked Adventures a 501(c)3 charity that has raise over \$450k for Parkinson's research. Bill lives with his wife and two children in Wilmette, Illinois.



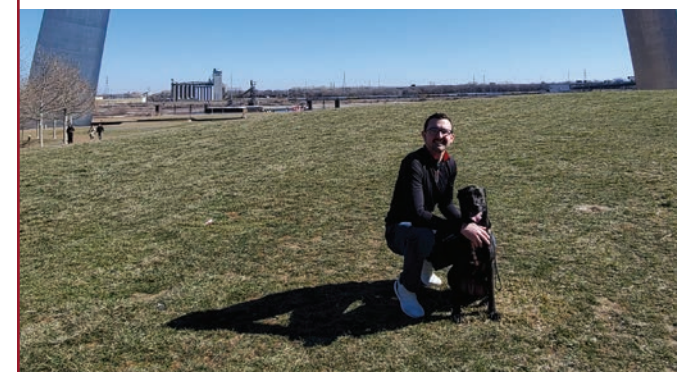
DREW NELSON, AK'17

Drew Nelson (DJ Launch Codes), S2k17, got engaged on October 29, 2022. He is also finally graduating with a degree in Mechanical Engineering from UMKC, and is rumored to be retiring from DJ'ing.



BRANDON EISENBATH, AK'14

Brandon and his wife Anna just welcomed their second child to the world, Eleanor Rose Eisenbath was born March 13, 2023.



BRET BAER, AK'10

After graduating Bret worked for various companies building multi-family, healthcare, and industrial projects for seven years in Anchorage, Houston, Philadelphia, Denver, and Wichita. He is now working for Kadean Construction back in Saint Louis, where he was born and raised.

WILL WYNE, AK'14

Will recently become a professionally licensed engineer in the State of Missouri.

JOE BOLEY, AK'94

Currently living in Austin, TX and working for Cypress Technologies, an electronics manufacturer. Wife, Julie (UMR grad '94), currently works as a director for a company named Citizant. Our eldest son is a Chemistry PhD candidate in his 4th year at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Our middle son is finishing up his degree at the University of Colorado-Boulder. And our youngest son is a freshman at Penn State University studying computer engineering.

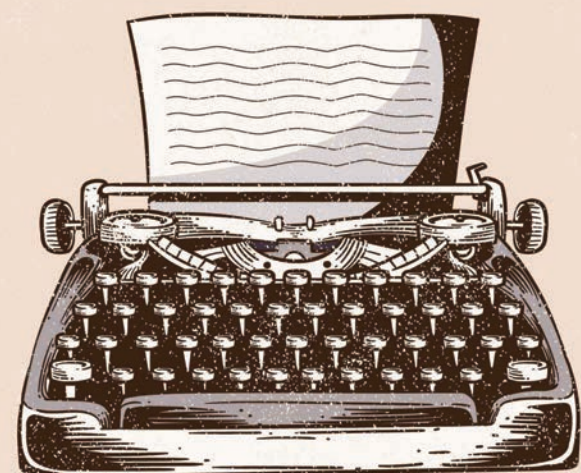
JACOB BAYLESS, AK'17

Jacob was promoted to IT Project Manager III at The Boeing Company in St. Louis. As a part of his new role, he was appointed to lead division-wide IT transformation initiatives on behalf of the VP of Engineering IT. Bayless also recently completed his Master of Science in Information Technology from Missouri State University in December of 2022.



WILL KIRBY, AK'04

Brother Kirby recently wrote a children's book about Missouri S&T, titled ABCs of Missouri S&T: An Alphabet Book for Missouri University of Science and Technology. Here is a short description of the book: Whether you know the school as University of Missouri-Rolla, Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy, or just plain Rolla, this book about the Missouri University of Science and Technology is for you! This book will take you on an A to Z tour of the town, campus, and school that we all know and love. A great book for beginning readers and future dreamers! If you would like to purchase the book you can search for it on Mascotbooks.com or email Brother Kirby at will.kirby@hotmail.com



Whatcha been up to?

Send us your news to be featured in the Kapers!

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

Email: Keaton Roof kar4cf@mst.edu

PERRIN ROLLER RECEIVES

WOLF LOYALTY AWARD

The 2022 RV Wolf was awarded to Perrin Roller, a 2004 special initiate of Alpha Kappa. Brother Roller graduated with a BS in Geological Engineering in 1980. While in Rolla, he was a starter and four-year letterman for the Miner Football team which won the 1977 MIAA championship. That team was recently inducted into the Miner Athletic Hall of Fame.

Upon graduating, Perrin started his career in the oil and gas industry which has taken him to over 40 different countries in the past 43 years. He retired as the Senior Vice President of Operations for a large independent oil company in 2015 and has been working since as an engineering, operational and process safety consultant and also as an expert witness for oil and gas litigation.

Perrin is a Past President of the Miner Alumni Association and is a member of the Mines and Metallurgy Academy and the Miner Athletic Academy. He is also a director for the Alpha Kappa Education Foundation and has sponsored one of the leadership scholarships that are awarded each year to an AK brother. Perrin is married and lives in Palestine, Texas with his wife, Brenda. They have two daughters, Erika who works in the film industry on the East Coast and Alyssa, a 2021 S&T graduate who works for Lockheed Martin in Fort Worth.

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

"Having the opportunity to be around campus and the chapter house over the years has given me a really good perspective of what goes into building a successful chapter. Leadership, service and devotion to the chapter come to mind. Alpha Kappa has a great tradition of Alumni Service to this chapter. It has been a real asset to have Brothers Brockhaus and Kallmeier, The Brothers Powell, Al Wentz, General Wedge, Murph and of course Brother Don Meyers and Chris Ramsay and many others that I have not named. It goes without saying, Brother Bob Wolf, who unfortunately I never did get to know, had a huge part in developing Alpha Kappa into a chapter of great prominence in the past 40 years.

What we have here at Alpha Kappa is very special. There are many other fraternal organizations that are a very broad cross section of the population. There are college fraternities all across the country, including other chapters of Pi Kappa Alpha. Then you have Alpha Kappa here at Missouri S & T. The difference here is obvious. The other schools are broad cross sections of college students. Here you are with a lot of guys that generally have similar educational backgrounds and most likely, similar interests in their educational pursuits and careers. Alpha Kappa is a very special chapter within a special, if not unique institution.

As you go out into this world, with all the turmoil and change happening around us on a continuous basis; remember two things: Focus on what is important and always do the right thing.

More importantly, remember these constants, these are: Faith, Family and Fraternity; Some of us, myself included have been and will be on different paths. That variable can take a toll on everything unless you keep the priorities arranged in the correct order. As you grow, and yes you will grow; there will be a lot of demands on your time and talents.

The last thing I will leave you with is friendship and brotherly love. Over the years we make many acquaintances, we make some friends, and out of this we have an even fewer number that we can call best friends. Relationships (among other things) are an important part of our existence as human beings. We will always have the bonds of being brothers, but just as brothers in a family must do, we must reach out to maintain friendship. That my brothers is a two-way street. If a brother has not reached out to you, maybe there is a really good reason for it. (Family demands, career demands), maybe you take a chance and reach out to him. Maybe that is all it takes to re-kindle that spirit. Don't let the time pass by without at least trying to keep those bonds as strong as possible.

In closing, I want to say how blessed we are to have a group of men that have been willing to dedicate their time, talents and resources to the betterment of Alpha Kappa. We are all sitting in Wolf Hall today because of their dedication to the chapter and dedication to help future generations of Brothers."



ACM Entrepreneurship
Braxton Schmedeke

Alpha Chi Sigma
Trey Beckham
Nicholas Reilly, Pres.
Keaton Roof

Alpha Nu Sigma
Drew Barringhaus, V.Pres.

American Inst. of Aeronautics and Astronautics
Sam Becker
Jonathan Berra
Cole Hopper
Michael Ward
Danny Weishaar
Collin York

American Inst. of Chemical Engineers
Trey Beckhman
Nicholas Reilly
Keaton Roof

American Nuclear Society
Drew Barringhaus

American Society of Civil Engineers
John Becker
Sam Bonderer
Austin Buck
Earnest Burnett
Hunter Dunn
Daniel Evers
Alex Ketcherside
Wyatt Moore
Dominic Pona
Micheal Radlund
Nicholas Sikora
Carson Sinnard
Dan Walsh
Erik Wyatt

American Society of Engineering Management
Isaac Legene
Braxton Schmedeke

American Society of Mechanical Engineers
Ryan Eads
Nathen Gober
Dakota Gotsch
Harrison Hunt
Jacob Lyons
Tyler Mehl
Luke Mirly
Schaffer Stephens

American Society of Mechanical Engineers (con't)
Collin Pepper
Gavin Walker

Archery Club
Nathen Gober

Architectural Engineering Institute
John Becker
Austin Buck
Earnest Burnett
Hunter Dunn
Carson Sinnard

Army ROTC
Michael Radlund
Dakota Saylor

Assoc. General Contractors (AGC)
Sam Bonderer
Daniel Walsh
Erik Wyatt

Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)
Matthew Gaston
Payton Labbee
Oscar Sargent

BBQ Club
Levi Goodin
Blake Moore

Ceramic Artist of S&T
Dominic Ponciroli

Chancellor's Leadership Academy
Harrison Hunt

Chem-E Car Design Team
Nickolas Reilly

Chess Club
John Becker
Andrew Dutton
Dominic Pona

Cycling Club
Andrew Dutton

ECO Miners
Blake Moore

Esports Club
Shaun Brooks

Formula Electric Design Team
Drew Barringhaus
Andrew Dutton

Formula SAE
Andrew Dutton
Jacob Lyons
Tyler Mehl, Shop Mgr.
Dominic Ponciroli
Gavin Walker

Fraternal Order of Leaders
Nickolas Reilly
Joseph Schweer

Frisbee Golf Club
John Becker
Keagan Walters

Honors Academy
John McLeod

Inst. of Electrical & Electronic Engineers
Joseph Breen
Ryan May

Institute for Transportation Engineers
Blake Moore
Wyatt Moore

Intrafraternity Council
Keaton Roof
Braxton Schmedeke
Joseph Schweer
Evan Sisavath

Intramural Referee
Nicholas Newman
Luke Mirly
Jacob Mendez

Kummer Vanguard Scholarship Program
Drew Barringhaus
Hunter Dunn
Aron Johnson
Aiden Laubinger
John McLeod
Carson Sinnard
Gavin Walker

Longboarding Club
Samuel Briar
Matthew Gaston

Mathematics Assoc. of America
Brad Bowen
Levin Goodin

Mars Rover Team
Gavin Walker

Mentoring Makes a Difference
Cole Hopper
Aron Johnson
Braxton Schmedek

Miner Aviation
Andrew Dutton
Jacob Lyons
Michael Ward

Motorcycle Design Team
Doug Poertner

Nat'l Society of Black Engineers
Isaac Legene

Nat'l Society of Leadership and Success
Samuel Becker
Nathen Gober

Omega Chi Epsilon
Nickolas Reilly

Opportunities for Undergrad. Research
Drew Barringhaus
John McLeod

Order of Omega
Levi Goodin
Wyatt Moore

Orientation Week Mentor
Sam Bonderer

Outside Life Travel
Drew Barringhaus,
Campus Manager

Overwatch Team
John McLeod, Captain

Phi Sigma Pi
Joseph Schweer

Photography Club
Michael Radlund
Schaffer Stephens

Rock Climbing Club
Samuel Briar
Oscar Sargent
Matthew Gaston
Dakota Gotsch

Rocket Design Team
Sam Becker
Cole Hopper
Danny Weishaar
Collin York

Rugby Club
Earnest Burnett
Keagan Walters

Satellite Team
Jonathan Berra
Collin York

Solar Car Design Team
Joseph Breen, President

Solar House Design Team
John Becker, Vice Pres.
Sam Bonderer
Hunter Dunn
Erik Wyatt

Step Up!
John Becker
Sam Bonderer
Hunter Dunn

Steel Bridge Design Team
Austin Buck
Dominic Pona
Carson Sinnard

Surveying Teacher Assistant
Dominic Pona
Wyatt Moore

Tau Beta Pi Honor Society
Nathen Gober
Harrison Hunt
Ryan May

Varsity Soccer
Dennis Cloud
Jason Jorgensen, Cpt.
Marcus Kjar
Aiden Laubinger
Luke Mirly

Volleyball Club
Isaac Legene
Luke Mirly
Nicholas Newman, Treas.

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 J.T. Becker by email at jtb7bz@mst.edu.

FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2024

All Day
Open House
Alumni Dinner

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 2024

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 3, 2024

All Day
Open House

Please help the active chapter update the alumni database by either filling out the Alumni Update below, or by contacting Keaton Roof by email at kar4cf@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 2024 — 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
613 West 9th St.
Rolla, MO 65401

NON PROFIT
ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #180
ROLLA MO



The New Fire Truck