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# Alpha-Delta News



— [www.kappasigpsu.com](http://www.kappasigpsu.com) —

A PUBLICATION OF THE KAPPA SIGMA FRATERNITY

AT THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

– October 2008 –

## HOUSE CORPORATION REPORT

### Securing a New Chapter House for Alpha Delta is Our Top Priority

#### Plans for Spring Initiation are Underway with 20 New Pledges This Fall

Dear Alpha Delta Alumni,

Greetings! As I write this, I just returned from a great victory over Illinois. It was a night game and a "White Out," the best college football can offer! Our Nittany Lions are off to a strong start!

Our Kappa Sigma tailgate was equally as exciting as the game. It started around 8:30 a.m. and lasted to right before kick-off. We had at least 200 Alpha Delta alumni and colony members in attendance. Brothers ranged from 1950s alumni to freshman colony members. Alpha Delta alumni and undergraduates tailgate at the same location prior to every home game. A map to the tailgate area is on our website at [www.kappasig.psu.com](http://www.kappasig.psu.com) or you can send me an email for directions. Please stop by whenever you attend a home game.

The alumni corporation is still actively looking for a chapter house to rent or purchase. Securing a new chapter house for Alpha Delta is our top priority. The alumni, and especially the colony members, are very anxious to have a new home.

The colony is doing well and is planning on an early spring semester initiation. At last count, the colony had 20 new pledges for the fall semester. Please read the letter from the colony GM **Mike Gales '09** on page 2 for an update.

The highlight of this newsletter is an alumni profile on Brother **Tim Bonawitz '70**. Brother Bonawitz has been a very loyal and involved member of our chapter. Tim was the alumni advisor during some of my undergraduate years and we have been friends ever since.

### THON

The colony is again going to be very active with THON this year. They will be actively

working on THON pledges starting in October. If they call you, please support their efforts to raise money for this very worthwhile cause. Contact Jeff Watson (THON Chair) at [jrw359@psu.edu](mailto:jrw359@psu.edu) to make a pledge. If you donate directly to THON, please consider listing "Kappa Sigma" as the sponsoring organization so we will get credit.

### Send Us Your Email Address!

Email communication is EXTREMELY efficient and FREE. We currently send out monthly E-Newsletters, but we need your email address for you to receive one! Please take the time to log in to the web site at [www.kappasigpsu.com](http://www.kappasigpsu.com) and make sure we have your current email address, or write it on the enclosed membership form. Our email address database is never used by outside companies, only for official Alpha Delta communications.

### What's New?

Tell us what's up with you, your family or career. Send in photos! The alumni, especially the guys from your years, want to know what you are up to! So take a few minutes and jot down a few lines about yourself on the enclosed form.

Our vision is to have the premier fraternity chapter on campus, with an undergraduate chapter and house that sets a new standard for all other fraternities to follow. We already have an exceptional group of men in the colony, now we just need a chapter house to complete our goal. Together, we can make that vision a reality. Thank you for your loyal support!

Faternally Yours,

**Edward D. Gorkes '79**  
President

## COLONY REPORT

### Our Award Winning Colony is Close to Official Recognition on Campus

#### Nationally Ranked Top Colony for Service Hours and 3rd Highest Cumulative GPA on Campus Among Male Greeks

By Mike Gales '08

I would like to update you on the progress of the new Alpha Delta colony. The colony is really beginning to come into its own on Penn State's campus. We are extremely close to becoming recognized as an official student body organization as a campus fraternity, rather than an organization with pending status. This comes at a great time as we are thriving in many aspects of fraternal life.

One of our strongest abilities is our academic work at Penn State. Our average cumulative GPA in the spring was a 3.36. This GPA ranked third amongst male Greek life at the university and almost one fourth of our members made the Dean's List. The colony is also strong in community service work. After our first THON experience, the colony was recognized nationally by Kappa Sigma as the number one colony or chapter in service hours. The award was presented

to several of our members at the Eastern Biennial Conclave in Richmond, Virginia.

With many of our members being upperclassmen, a major effort of ours this semester was rush and recruitment. After numerous events both on and off campus, we found ourselves competing over many quality young men. I am proud to say that our outstanding efforts paid off and we had our largest pledge class so far of 20 members.

Another project of ours was challenged to us by the SEC at the Eastern Conclave. We were asked to raise \$1,000 to benefit war veterans and military heroes as part of Kappa Sigma's newly announced philanthropy the Kappa Sigma Fisher House. With the assistance of several alumni, our philanthropy chair and his committee, we organized the sale of long-sleeved "We Are Kappa Sigma" shirts. Many are still available and can be purchased by contacting

any colony member. All earnings and proceeds will be donated to reach our assigned goal and will hopefully exceed the amount. Donations can be made by visiting <http://www.active.com/donate/FisherHouseKappaSig/AlphaDeltaColony>, or making a check out to the "Fisher House Foundation" with "Alpha-Delta" in the MEMO line, and sending to: Fisher House Foundation, Attn: Kappa Sigma, PO Box 2346; Rockville, MD 20847.

We have enjoyed tailgating and spending time with alumni around campus. Hopefully you have also enjoyed our presence and gotten to know many more of our members. The colony eagerly anticipates regaining the Alpha Delta charter and will keep everyone posted on when the weekend will occur. We are also planning several spring events which could include an initiation weekend, a THON event and Blue/White Weekend.

## ALUMNI UPDATES

We'd love to hear what you're doing! Submit your own update online at [www.kappasigpsu.com](http://www.kappasigpsu.com) or with the enclosed form. They may be featured in our next newsletter!

### '50s

#### Gordon Olsen '51

(232 W. Frier Dr., Phoenix, AZ 85021-7233) Last year, I became a great grandfather to Sophia Anya Kristoff, daughter of Kristen Lerch and David Kristoff.

### '60s

#### Frederick C. Baesman '64

(405 Lopez Rd., Lopez Island, WA 98261-8301; [fritz@baesman.net](mailto:fritz@baesman.net)) Our daughter, Megan Baesman and Derrick Nunnally wed on August 16th in a ceremony on Lopez Island, WA. Derrick is currently a reporter for *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and Megan is in her second year of the Wharton School's MBA program.

#### James Ball '65

(3253 Oak Branch Lane, Toano, VA 23168-9617; [techtrans@cox.net](mailto:techtrans@cox.net)) I moved to Williamsburg, VA from northern Virginia in 2001, but continue to serve as the Technology Transition Manager for the Combating Terrorism Technical Support Office in Washington. Met a wonderful lady three years ago here and married her at the end of June. Linda retired last year as a VP of SunTrust Bank. We enjoy concerts, gardening, many friends and social activities here in Williamsburg. Linda's daughter and her family with three granddaughters also live here, so we are blessed.

#### Dr. Philip Xanthopoulos '66

(106 Oak Shadow Dr, Santa Rosa, CA 95404 US; [philipx@earthlink.net](mailto:philipx@earthlink.net)) I have been in the brokerage business for nearly 30 years. I work at Wells Fargo WMG in northern California. I spent my previous years predominately with Prudential Securities and there were a few years with Merrill Lynch and Leberthal. I had several tours on Wall Street due to the fact that I

have been in management positions and we moved frequently. I am hoping to finish out my career here in the wine country of California about an hour north of San Francisco. We have four children and eight grandchildren.

### '80s

#### Michael S. DeNapoli '86

(2152 Roosevelt Ave., Altadena, CA 91001-3511; [drdenap@earthlink.net](mailto:drdenap@earthlink.net)) My kids turned 8 and 11 recently and we just love the California lifestyle.

#### Wendy MacKenzie Pease '87

(93 Moore Road, Sudbury, MA 01776-1911; [wendypease@hotmail.com](mailto:wendypease@hotmail.com)) My favorite memories are pig roasts and Friday happy hours. I would love to see the gang. When's the next pig roast? Lefki, are you up for a road trip? MJ, did you or I have the brick?

### Tim Bonawitz's Commitment to Kappa Sigma Continues to Bring Brothers Together

#### *Opening His State College Home to Alumni, Tim is Optimistic About the Future of Kappa Sigma at Penn State*

**Tim Bonawitz '70** has not only returned to live in State College since his graduation, but he's built a house there that's practically custom-made for alumni parties.

"State College is a beautiful place to live," he says, "I encourage any alumni who have children now attending Penn State to stop by and say hello. We have a 64-foot deck out back, perfect for entertaining."

Before he even started at Penn State, Tim was familiar with the campus and various fraternities. His older sister went to Penn State, as did several friends from his hometown of Newport, PA. He attended parties there and met several fraternity guys throughout the 1960s.

***"I would like to see the current colony become an official chapter and restore the Kappa Sigma fraternity to a prominent place in the fraternity system. I'm willing to do what I can to help make that happen."***

Over the years, Tim and his wife of 28 years, Michaela, have organized and hosted many alumni reunions. These are usually two-day affairs that include golf, dinner and a cookout in their backyard. Although they didn't meet until ten years after he graduated, Tim says that Michaela has become one of the guys.

There is a core group of about 70 alumni from 1968 through 1976 who generally attend the reunions, and Tim invites and encourages more alumni to attend.

A few years ago the group hosted a seafood feast at the Elks Club with golf during the day. The following year they rented a private box at a minor league baseball game. This past May there was a 60th birthday party for 11 brothers who turned 60 during 2008. For this year's Homecoming, **Ray Royko '69, Rich Mascaro '67, Ted Perry '70** and **John**



*Tim Bonawitz '70*

**McEnergy '70** will be staying with Tim.

"It's a lot of work for my wife and me, but I'm retired and have the time to do it," says Tim. "And we always have a great time."

Tim continues to be an avid Penn State football fan. He has been retired for five years now, but his 30-year career in the insurance business and 22 years with The Hartford Insurance Company, moved him several times to Virginia and Connecticut. Even when living out of state, Tim only missed three Penn State home games.

"The one thing that I could count on during all those changes was that I would be sure to see many of my old friends on my return trips to State College for football games," Tim recalls.

There are about 50 fraternity brothers who still tailgate at each home game and they have 28 seats reserved in the first rows along the 40-yard line.

Back in school, Tim lived in the house his sophomore and junior years, and in an apartment his senior year when the house was full. A few of his roommates were **Calvin Lewis '71, Mike High '70, Dave Snyder '63** and the late **Fred Ciotti '70**. One story that often comes up in conversation is their "mountain party."

"We covered the party room floor with straw, had several barnyard animals wandering throughout the house and had our own one-hole outhouse in the party room door," he remembers. "I am quite sure that the brothers and pledges from the late

'60s can recall other activities that may have occurred during that fateful evening."

After graduation, Tim served as an Alumni Advisor for several years in the 1970s and today is an Assistant Alumni Advisor.

"Kappa Sigma has had a significant influence on me since graduation. The contacts that I made during my years as an undergraduate and during my tenure as the Alumni Advisor have had an impact on my professional and personal life," he says.

As it turns out several of his brothers have also decided to purchase property in Happy Valley. **George Strachan '70, Charlie Mazza '70, Rob Hampton '73, Don Carretta '75** and soon **Bill Vittori**, all have homes in State College and try to get together whenever they come back home to Happy Valley.

Some of Tim's favorite hobbies are fishing and golfing. He takes yearly fishing trips to various hot spots in Canada, the Finger Lakes and upstate New York. Calling himself an "addicted golfer" he is on the course up to six times a week.

In addition to his continuing work with Kappa Sigma, Tim is a member of the State College Elks club and a volunteer for the Centre County chapter of AARP.

"As one of the Assistant Alumni Advisors I would like to see the current colony become an official chapter and restore the Kappa Sigma fraternity to a prominent place in the fraternity system," he says looking to the future, "I'm willing to do what I can to help make that happen."

#### **Want to contact Tim?**

Get in touch with him at:  
tim mikepsu@aol.com  
or 814-574-6061.

Do you know of a Kappa Sigma alum who would make a good profile subject? If so, contact our editors at [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com) (mention "Alpha-Delta News" in the subject line).

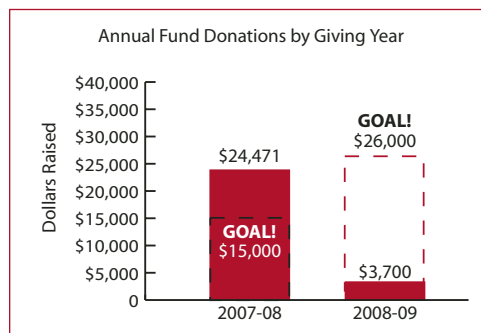
## ANNUAL FUND

**We Surpassed our 2007-08 Goal with Over \$24,000 in Donations**

**The Goal for Next Year is \$26,000**

Thanks to all the donors who helped us greatly surpass our 2007-08 goal of \$15,000 in annual fund donations! We received almost \$10,000 more than our initial goal by raising a total of \$24,471 in gifts. Our goal for the 2008-09 giving year is \$26,000 in donations and we're already off to a great start with \$3,700 in just from the month of

September. Our annual fund is essential to maintaining our House Corporation and we thank all our donors for their continued support. **Make a donation to the annual fund online at [www.kappasigpsu.com](http://www.kappasigpsu.com) or by calling 800-975-6699.**



## 2008-09 HONOR ROLL

### Thank You Donors!

*Thanks to the following donors who have already donated to the annual fund since our giving year began on September 1st. Add your name to our Honor Roll of Donors by making a donation to the annual fund.*

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*Reflects gifts received as of October 2.*

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

Can you name any of the brothers and their dates from this picture of the 1974 Spring Fling? Let us know or submit your own photos to our archives online at [www.kappasigpsu.com](http://www.kappasigpsu.com).

