

THE RAMBLER

Issued from the Beta Kappa Chapter in Stillwater, OK



SPRING 2010

HUGE IMPROVEMENT FROM LAST 2 SEMESTERS AS MEMBERSHIP GPA IS 2.86, SCHOLASTIC POLICY TO HELP RAISE GPA FURTHER.

Grades are the most important aspect of the college and fraternity experience. We have had our struggles over the past couple of semesters, but are taking great measures to improve them. Last semester, the brothers of the Beta Kappa Chapter have taken great strides in improving the membership GPA, as we have achieved a 2.8597 house GPA, with a 2.992 members' GPA, and 14th overall. The all-men's campus average was 2.65, and we surpassed it by 0.2 grade points, which currently puts us at Maxwell status for Scholastics. We are still striving to raise our GPA to a 3.0 or better, and we are implementing a scholastics policy that will be enforced. In an effort to improve the grades of the pledge classes as well as the entire house, responsibility to the brotherhood will be the key in our new Scholastics Policy. Every brother and associate member will be expected to hand in a test report after they receive their scores for each exam they take. This report will take five seconds, only requiring them to write their name, the class, and the score they got. By doing this we will have an idea of how to assess everyone's progress. With these test scores the Scholastics committee will be able to see who is struggling in classes and will be able to help give them the resources they need to succeed, whether it is school-offered tutoring, help from a brother who has taken the class, or just study advice. Reorganizing the Test Files is the other piece to the new policy. By having strong test files and notes it will make it much easier for brothers to study for tests and complete homework assignments. In an effort to improve grades next fall there will also be a system in place to help brothers get in the same classes as each other. Being responsible for helping each other in these classes will also raise self awareness to not want to let each other and the house down.

RUSH PLANS FOR THIS SPRING & FALL, GOAL TO IMPROVE NUMBERS & TO REPEAT RESULT FROM LAST SUMMER.

Recruitment has continued to progressively improve in terms of efficiency and the number of associates for the past several summers. This continual improvement has occurred because of a commitment to excellence made by the undergraduates and vital support from Beta Kappa alumni. For summer 2010, the undergraduates would like to continue the recent tradition of improvement while building upon the success of previous summers. Once again alumni support will be a crucial aspect for this growth. The recruitment team is already hard at work planning Greek Discovery Day, which is March 27. Focus for summer recruitment will be placed on individual connections instead of mere dollars spent. In the summer of 2009 important suggestions for potential associate members in their areas of residence were given to the recruitment team by alumni and resulted in multiple signings of young men that are now brothers. We are also planning on signing at least a 5-man pledge class for Spring 2010 which will make summer rush that much easier. If this system of recommendation continues the undergraduates are confident in yet another successful summer. Social media and the list serv will once again be utilized as means to distribute information on the progress of recruitment efforts and all events planned. If you have any recruitment advice, suggestions, potential rushees or concerns please direct them to our Executive Rush Chairmen Zane Riggs at (405) 203-8444 or rush@pktbk.com.

ALUMNI SUPPORT GREATLY APPRECIATED, PLANS TO CONTINUE ALUMNI RELATIONS THROUGH EXTENSIVE COMMUNICATION & INVOLVEMENT.

Without the support from you, the alumni, the Beta Kappa Chapter cannot reach its maximum potential as a powerhouse chapter on campus as well as in the entire fraternity. My goal, just like every external vice-president that has been before me, is to strengthen ties and help the chapter gain alumni support. However, alumni relations is a 2-way street, which means I want to create opportunities that will allow you to relive the glory days when you were an undergraduate, as well as create opportunities for you to interact with the current undergraduates. I will constantly update you with events, accomplishments, and anything else about the Beta Kappa Chapter immediately through the list serv when notified. The Golf Tournament set up by fellow alums Chris Davenport, Bryan Schooley, and David Sutton last semester was a big hit, and I want to build off that by planning and organizing a few alumni events throughout the semester. We are planning on holding a "Building Men of Character" retreat here at the Phi Tau house, striving for sometime this semester. More information on this event will come when it gets closer. I also want to implement the "Adopt an Alumni" program, which will connect you to our associate members. As for Stardust Formal 2010, we will be having the event in Kansas City, MO on April 23-24, 2010. I will inform everyone which hotel we are staying at, how much everything will cost for each person and the schedule of events within 3 months in advance so you can start making your plans for it. On behalf of the Beta Kappa Chapter, I want to thank you all for your support for the chapter, and I will strive to keep constant communication between you and the undergraduates.

-David Rodocker
External Vice-President

BIGGEST FOCUS FOR M.O. PROGRAM TO EXCEL IN GRADES, BUILDING MEN OF CHARACTER

The motto of Phi Kappa Tau is Building Men of Character, and it starts with the M.O. Program. Last semester was a big success for the M.O. Program. Out of the 27 associate members that began the program, 22 of them got initiated with no holdovers. This pledge class that has brought a lot of excitement to Phi Tau last summer has not let us down as they have helped raise our GPA, the majority of them have paid their house bills in full during the semester, they strive to make us well known on campus, and they are willing to become very active during their undergraduate membership.

This semester the M.O. Program will be ran by Gage Leadford and accompanying him as the assisting membership orientation officer is Nathan Scaggs. There are 2 main goals that the M.O. Program will strive for this semester and next semester. The first one is to excel in academics. This will require the associate members to attend all study halls, maintain study hours, and stay on top of their classes. The second is building men of character. This is where the leadership and the maturity of the M.O.O. and Assistant M.O.O. will come into play, as they want to provide an overall fun experience, while at the same time teaching them the skills needed to succeed not only as a member of Phi Kappa Tau, but to succeed as a college student here at Oklahoma State and to succeed as a professional human being.

ABSOLUT PLEDGE CLASS AND HOMECOMING LAST SEMESTER HELP PHILANTHROPY BECOME STRONG POINT FOR CHAPTER.

Last spring, we were developing a big event that we can organize, promote, and implement in order to help out with Hole in the Wall donations. That event was Absolut Pledge Class, our well-known philanthropy event that has been absent since 2006. We had 8 houses participate in Absolut Pledge Class, and throughout the 3-day event the chapter raised \$1,844. In addition, Absolut Pledge Class created such a buzz around campus that more houses will be willing to participate in it next year, which will help us raise even more money for Hole in the Wall. We also raised \$654 during Homecoming, selling turkey legs and having a Jupiter Jump on display for little kids. Minus the \$75 reward for the first place winner in Absolut Pledge Class and \$40 for expenses, we raised a grand total of \$2,403 during the Fall 2009 semester, which should qualify us to earn a national award for Beta Kappa. Adding this with all the money we donated to other philanthropies in the community and on campus puts us in Maxwell status for this year.

This semester, our philanthropy chairman, Zane Riggs, plans to create a philanthropy event that involves a sorority, one idea being a dance-off style competition along with many other small fun activities to supplement it. He also plans to have a philanthropy mixer with all the houses in order for all the philanthropy chairs to network together and to inform each other what and when their philanthropy events are, so we can participate in their events and they can participate in ours. He will be working towards a semester that will be as successful as last semester.

COMMUNITY SERVICE LOOKS TO ACHIEVE CONSECUTIVE MAXWELL RESULT.

Charitable service is an important and easy way for fraternities to interact positively with their respective communities. Last year, the Beta Kappa Chapter had more than enough hours of community service to qualify for Maxwell status in that category, one that won us 2 national awards for total community service hours and average community service hours per member with 2,833 and 51.5, respectively, and this is an achievement that can be repeated. So far this year the chapter has participated in the fall semester's large-scale community service event, Into the Streets. Along with campus-wide events, individual brothers and associate members have done community service with organizations within Stillwater, such as The Humane Society, Habitat for Humanity, and the Salvation Army. The Beta Kappa Chapter will continue to provide service to Stillwater and its surrounding communities in 2010.

MANY IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HOUSE MADE DURING 2009 AND WORK WEEK JANUARY 2010.

With a 50+ year old house there are always things that need repaired and updated. In the past year we have fixed and updated a few things in the house, such as new refrigerator and freezer in the kitchen, fresh paint and a new floor in the kitchen, fresh paint in the study room, fixed the sun deck, game room walls repainted and floor buffed, back stairway painted, new bunk beds, sneeze guard in kitchen, and a brand new fire alarm system with siren & smoke detectors in every room. Although we have made some great improvements in the house, but there are many things that need to be done in, around, and outside the house to improve the general look and feel of it. That was the plan for Spring Work Week, which was held January 4-9, 2010. Our goals for work week that needed to be completed were to fix and replace steps, fix metal rack, clean carpets, sand, restain, or replace hand rails on stairwells, fix or replace florescent lights that don't work, replace rotted wood outside, putting lights over crest and letters, remove the paint spots off the back stairs, need new furniture for the gameroom, and need new plexiglass windows. If you have any suggestions or ideas for any house improvements contact House Manager Jesse Green at hm@pktbk.com or (405) 850-2751.

OTHER NEWS & NOTES

- Freshman Follies 2009 featured last semester's associate member class, which was the first from Phi Kappa Tau in 5 years to make the final show. Their hard work and dedication paid off as the pairing of Phi Kappa Tau and Alpha Delta Pi won "Most Spirited".
- Don't forget to make your plans for the 59th National Convention, held at the Westin Westminster in Denver, CO on July 14-18, 2010. Also, the Heartland Regional Conference is being held at the Gamma Mu Chapter at Bradley University in Peoria, IL on March 6, 2010.
- The 2007-2008 Composite has been finished and is now placed within the house. The 2008-2009 Composite is being fixed and should be finished sometime this semester. The 2009-2010 Composite has been finished, and is now hanging up in the house.
- In order to promote membership activity, we have used a positive reinforcement method. This is what is known as the Beta Kappa Challenge, a semesterly point system based on merit as an all-around active brother. Categories are grades, rush, finances, active committee membership, athletics, public relations, community service, philanthropy, house work, and national participation. The brother with the most points at the end of the semester will get his name on the plaque hanging in the house, and will receive a plaque of achievement as well as a free date party with 2 free date party T-shirts of his choice during the following semester. The winner of the inaugural Beta Kappa Challenge is Jesse Green.
- Beta Kappa is looking for alumni sponsors to help send 2 representatives from our chapter to volunteer at a Hole in the Wall Camp during the summer. It is required in order to claim Maxwell status in community service, and more importantly we want to give back. If interested in giving back in this manner please contact the External Vice-President or the Community Service Chairman anytime.
- The new Parents Club President are David Rodocker's parents, the new Parents Club Treasurer are Ian Spector's parents, and the new Parents Club Secretary are David Strawn's parents. Mom's Day is held on April 10, 2010.
- At the beginning of the summer, the rush section of the chapter website has been updated and organized better with the help of David Sutton, which is greatly appreciated. This semester, our goal is to add a community service section and philanthropy section in order to make our website look as professional as possible.

DONATIONS

If you are interested in making a donation, we have several options for you to choose from. (Some of which are even **TAX DEDUCTIBLE**) please contact the Housing Corporation through email at

HC@pktbk.com or go to the website at www.pktbk.com

We greatly appreciate it.

CHAPTER CONTACT

If you would like to email me you can do so at evp@pktbk.com or david.rodocker@okstate.edu, or you can call my cell at (918) 704-8010 or the Phi Kappa Tau house phone at (405) 372-3460. Send letters to:

External Vice President: David Rodocker

Phi Kappa Tau

1203 W 3rd St.

Stillwater, OK 74074

Beta Kappa Chapter



CHAPTER OFFICERS

President:	Patrick McLaughlin	(832) 287-7487	pres@pktbk.com
Internal Vice-President:	Justin Yearwood	(915) 269-2482	ivp@pktbk.com
External Vice-President:	David Rodocker	(918) 704-8010	evp@pktbk.com
Secretary:	Kyle Corriveau	(405) 623-3789	sec@pktbk.com
Treasurer:	David Strawn	(405) 315-0778	treas@pktbk.com
M.O.O.:	Gage Leadford	(405) 207-4475	moo@pktbk.com
House Manager:	Jesse Green	(405) 850-2751	hm@pktbk.com
Executive Rush:	Zane Riggs	(405) 203-8444	rush@pktbk.com
Chaplain:	Dominic Corrado	(214) 578-3036	chap@pktbk.com
Assistant M.O.O.:	Nathan Scaggs	(580) 618-4147	nscaggs@okstate.edu
Community Service:	Eli Ellis	(405) 514-8840	eli.ellis@okstate.edu
Risk Management:	Thomas Caldwell	(903) 563-1221	thomas.caldwell@okstate.edu
Social:	Timothy Gregg	(580) 512-0998	tgregg@okstate.edu
Awards:	Jesse Green	(405) 850-2751	jesse.green@okstate.edu
Kitchen Steward:	Dominic Corrado	(214) 578-3036	dominic.corrado@okstate.edu
Athletics:	Aaron Diaz	(405) 365-0495	Aaronxd@okstate.edu
Brotherhood:	DJ Crump	(469) 831-4804	dcrump1024@yahoo.com
Philanthropy:	Zane Riggs	(405) 203-8444	zane.riggs@okstate.edu
Scholastics:	Ben DeWalt	(973) 934-7210	ben.dewalt@okstate.edu
Parents Club:	Justin Yearwood	(915) 269-2482	justin.yearwood@okstate.edu
Historian:	Mike Jones	(918) 931-7310	pmjones@okstate.edu
Corresponding Secretary:	Justin Yearwood	(915) 269-2482	justin.yearwood@okstate.edu
PSO:	Blake Williams	(918) 639-0109	blake.williams10@okstate.edu

BOG OFFICERS

BOG Chairman:	Jason Schooley	(602) 326-2294	BOG@pktbk.com
Financial Advisor:	David Sutton	(972) 977-5700	BOG@pktbk.com
Scholarship Advisor:	Adam Nagele	(918) 914-9638	BOG@pktbk.com
Recruitment/Retention Advisor:	David Miller	(918) 607-8191	BOG@pktbk.com
Co-Recruitment Advisor:	Michael Rogers	(903) 316-4223	BOG@pktbk.com
Risk Management Advisor:	Kyle Teter	(405) 517-7447	BOG@pktbk.com
Chapter Advisor/House Director:	Jared Hake	(405) 269-1895	HD@pktbk.com
Faculty Advisor:	OPEN		BOG@pktbk.com
Alumni Relations Advisor:	Blake Bullard	(405) 388-1976	BOG@pktbk.com
Member-at-Large:	Patrick McLaughlin	(832) 287-7487	pres@pktbk.com
Member-at-Large:	Kyle Corriveau	(405) 623-3789	sec@pktbk.com

HOUSING CORPORATION

President:	Bryan Schooley	(918) 633-9919	HC@pktbk.com
Treasurer:	David Sutton	(972) 977-5700	HC@pktbk.com
Member:	Travis Doyle	(479) 200-0829	HC@pktbk.com

GRADUATE COUNCIL

President:	David Miller	(918) 607-8191	GC@pktbk.com
Secretary:	OPEN		GC@pktbk.com
Treasurer:	OPEN		GC@pktbk.com