

## IN THIS ISSUE

Stewart Winn '58 Update. . . . .	2
NIC National Update. . . . .	2
Kick the Stigma Update. . . . .	3
Brothers Gather . . . . .	3
Greek Life . . . . .	4



# THE ALPHA TAUKER

[www.kappasigmagt.org](http://www.kappasigmagt.org)

March 2018

Alpha Tau of  
Kappa Sigma

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- Vice President  
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## ON THE WEB



**Alumni Website**  
[www.kappasigmagt.org](http://www.kappasigmagt.org)

**Facebook**  
[facebook.com/kappasigmagt](https://facebook.com/kappasigmagt)

## ALUMNI REPORT

### 6 Great Reasons to Renew Your Participation with Alpha Tau This Year

*Alumni Association Offers Plenty of Ways to Uphold  
Your Connections and Enhance Your Alpha Tau Experience*



We've recently launched an enhanced alumni program, which will be driven by frequent publication of the Alpha Tauker newsletter and our new online community, [www.kappasigmagt.org](http://www.kappasigmagt.org). We are counting on you to make our program a continued success.

There are plenty of reasons to maintain your connections with the Alpha Tau Chapter after graduation, and we thank the brothers who have remained active in their alumni years. For those of you who may have fallen away from the fraternity, we've compiled 6 great reasons to make this the year you renew your commitment to Alpha Tau.

- 1. We are the backbone for our future active chapter.** It is critical that our alumni bond together to form a unified, solid base for Alpha Tau in 2018 and 2019. The newest members of our fraternity will look to us to set an example of what it means to be a true gentleman.
- 2. The Alpha Tau experience doesn't end with graduation.** Membership in Alpha Tau is for life, and there are plenty of ways to stay involved: through alumni events, by serving as a volunteer, by actively participating in our alumni program, and, most importantly, by providing financial support to the Annual Fund.
- 3. We have a unique legacy to maintain.** We are fortunate to have a rich history and special traditions. If you were Kappa Sig during your college years, you are part

of a single brotherhood that is bonded together by a core set of values and principles.

- 4. We developed a new way for you to connect throughout the year.** Check out our new alumni web site, [www.kappasigmagt.org](http://www.kappasigmagt.org), where you can read the latest chapter news, find event details, and reconnect with old friends. Be sure to sign up for our monthly eLetter!
- 5. You have a lifelong network of brothers.** Find contact information for your fellow Kappa Sig brothers at [www.kappasigmagt.org](http://www.kappasigmagt.org), and connect with them for job networking opportunities, to renew old friendships, to find brothers in your area, and more.
- 6. You're the key to our past and the link to our future.** As a thriving alumni association, we boast generations of brothers that have contributed to our rich history. We have collectively preserved traditions, enriched lives of young men, and kept a thriving organization going strong at Georgia Tech for years. You have a unique place in that history, and are asked to maintain your connections to pay it forward for future generations.

We have lots of reasons to maintain our connections to Alpha Tau in our alumni years. If you haven't been involved recently, we personally invite you to renew your participation this year. As you can see, there's no reason not to.

## ALUMNI UPDATE

### Brother Stewart Winn '58 tells how he met his wife through Kappa Sig



"I guess you could say I met my wife Dial as a result of being a Kappa Sig (And that's a good thing, before any wise cracks!) After my 3-year stint in the Navy, I came back to Tech for my master's, but I could no more live in the frat house again than I could live with my parents (God love 'em), so another Kappa Sig, Mac Jones, and I rented an apartment in Ansley Park. Mac



was dating an Atlanta girl, and she had roommates, so, ....well, you get the picture. Over 55 years now, and still counting!"

#### What's New With You?

Share your news and updates online at

[www.kappasigmagt.org](http://www.kappasigmagt.org). You can also submit it our alumni relations editors at [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com).

Please mention Kappa Sig at Georgia Tech in your email. We may publish your update in our next issue!

## NATIONAL UPDATE

### NIC Bolsters Health and Safety Standards Nationwide

Despite no-hazing policies and other rules and regulations in place, no campus is safe from the fraternity-related injuries, deaths, and other tragedies that have dominated the headlines in recent years. In response, the North-American Interfraternity Council made some major announcements in 2017 regarding the need for improved safety and health measures for fraternities nationwide and their plan to address said needs.

"Now more than ever, students, alumni, community members, national organizations, and university administrators must come together to create ownership and accountability toward measures for change," Judson A. Horras, NIC president and CEO, wrote in a December letter. "We know critical issues that are deeply rooted in culture aren't going to be solved with quick fixes. It is going to take intentional collaboration and comprehensive strategies."

As part of these efforts to bolster safety, the NIC hired Archie Messersmith, a Sigma Phi Epsilon graduate, as its first-ever Director of Health and Safety in 2017. He will lead the implementation of the NIC's enhanced health and safety standards, which build upon already existing prevention efforts and programs. According to the NIC, the framework will introduce:

- **A medical Good Samaritan Policy** to encourage fraternity members to contact 911 in any medical emergency situations.
- **Baseline health and safety programming** to ensure all NIC member fraternities are providing required health and safety education to all chapters.
- **The Social Safe pilot program** that empowers the NIC to work with campuses to remove dangerous hard alcohol from the fraternity experience, provide a more balanced, academic-centered



North-American Interfraternity Conference



fraternity experience, and foster safer social events for members and guests.

It's a big job, but Messersmith is up for the challenge. He's no stranger to addressing important issues on campuses across the country. He spent the previous five years in various roles for Sigma Phi Epsilon, directing member safety, risk management operations, expansion efforts, university partnerships, and alumni/volunteer services and support. Notable accomplishments include leading SigEp's sexual assault prevention curriculum "Got Consent?" and co-developing the "Live Your Oath" campaign.

"The NIC is embarking on an enormous task of working with not just individual chapters, but entire communities to change the culture from the inside," Messersmith said in a statement last fall. "I am honored to be standing alongside such a great team at this pivotal time in our industry and excited about the impact our work will have."

Safe, healthy, and vibrant fraternity communities is what the NIC aims for – and truly believes is possible if students, graduates, administrators, community members, and NIC member fraternities work together.

The Greek Life community is filled with intelligent people who care deeply about the future of fraternities and believe wholeheartedly in its power to shape the lives of young men and create opportunities for them. Their support and cooperation will be critical as the NIC works to improve student safety, eliminate risks, and secure a future for fraternities.

Stay tuned to [www.nicindy.org](http://www.nicindy.org) for other news and updates regarding these efforts.

## CHAPTER FUTURE

### Help the True Meaning of Fraternity Live On

As the undergraduates at the Chapter house head into the middle of the Spring semester, we also need to keep in mind that they are counting on all of you, the graduates, to help them make the most of their time with Alpha Tau.

When you support Alpha Tau, you're not just supporting your fraternity. You're making a critical investment in the values of brotherhood, honor, tradition and goodwill, as well as the lives of young men who need your support now more than ever.

You've seen the news lately. Greek life is in a state of flux, and it is up to us to determine its fate. Will you join us in leading Alpha Tau into the next 100 years as the exemplary fraternity of the future?

Like you, 90% of our graduates rank their fraternity as one of their most impactful college experiences.



Is it because...?

- You learned responsibility and how to lead others through the self-governed residential experience.
- Your Greek life experience was the #1 out-of-the-classroom learning opportunity you could've ever had.
- You learned the importance of giving

back and helping others through volunteerism and fundraising.

Your fellow graduates remain your very best friends to this day.

It's no surprise to you that the Greek system donates 10 million service hours every year, 85% of student leaders are in a fraternity or sorority and Greek life raises millions of dollars annually for charity.

Your continual support ensures Alpha Tau provides the same valuable fraternity experience you enjoyed, to today's young men as well as the future members, while ensuring that no matter what, our graduates and bond stay strong.

Can Alpha Tau rely on you?

Fraternally,

*The Brothers of the Alpha Tau Chapter of Kappa Sigma at Georgia Tech*

## PHILANTHROPY REPORT

### Kick the Stigma 2017 was a success!



Our annual Kick the Stigma fundraiser was held on November 4th, 2017 for the 4th year in a row. Funds are raised to improve mental health within the Georgia Tech community. A kickball tournament is held with students

from all over campus attending. This year brothers raised \$1,500 through the event and donated all proceeds to the Mental Health Student Coalition on Georgia Tech's campus. Congrats brothers!

## ALUMNI UPDATE

### Brothers Gather for High School Football Reunion

Recently, **Allan Hall '72**, **John 'Flush' Bledsoe '72**, and **Tommy Brown '70** attended the 1967 Thomson High School State Championship Reunion in Thomson, GA. Mr. Brown is a successful business man in Thomson. Mr. Bledsoe is retired and living in Flowery Branch, GA. Mr. Hall is retired and living near Mickey Mouse in Celebration, FL.

*Have you reunited recently with any of your Kappa Sig brothers? We want to know about it. Submit you updates to the Alumni Updates section of the website!*





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## In this Issue...

- *6 Great Reasons to Renew*
- *Philanthropy*
- *Alumni Updates*

## GREEK LIFE

### Greek Life and Student Activities Work in Tandem to Support Student Success

#### *How Alpha Tau and Wreck Camp Have Influenced Jeffrey Coy's GT Experience*

When most fraternity members look back at their college years, they're thankful for the social and academic support their fraternity provided for them. **Jeffrey Coy**, a third year at Georgia Tech, is blessed to have not one organization to lean on, but two. In addition to membership in Kappa Sigma, Jeffrey has been actively involved with Wreck Camp ever since he was a camper prior to his first year at Georgia Tech. He credits both organizations with supporting his transition to—and success at—Georgia Tech.



"Kappa Sigma and Wreck Camp are both groups that provide help in all aspects of college life while supporting incoming students in so many ways," he says. "Wreck Camp eased a lot of my concerns and doubts in regards to Georgia Tech. I was very nervous about the course load and rigor that Georgia Tech brings to the table, but the camp helped me recognize that I had a huge group of peers that would be willing to assist me through this process, making sure I was never alone."

When spring semester rolled around, Jeffrey was lucky enough to join Kappa Sigma, which only further reinforced his support system and sense of belonging.

"I know that I can rely on every single brother whether it is for help with academics, a referral for an internship, or just having a

good time," he says. "They taught me how to balance priorities while making sure that getting a degree was on the top of my list. My brothers have and will continue to push me to succeed in all aspects of my life, and I am forever grateful for their love and dedication."

Jeffrey has remained committed to both organizations. After serving as a Wreck Camp leader for two years, he's now the Director of Operations and Media.

"I feel so connected to the mission of Wreck Camp, and I continuously want to give back to it," he explains. "[We] try to make incoming students' transition to Georgia Tech easier by providing a support network, mentors, and an understanding of history and traditions related to GT. I love knowing that all of my successes and failures have taught me things, and I always hope that incoming students can

learn from those experiences and situations."

Much like Wreck Camp, Alpha Tau occupies a special place in Jeffrey's heart.

Whether he's hanging out on the porch or playing intramural slow-pitch softball, Jeffrey knows he's creating memories that will last a lifetime.

He also feels a great sense of pride in Kappa Sigma's desire to improve—something he feels sets the fraternity apart from others on campus.

"We always expect each other to work on bettering ourselves and the fraternity," he says. "Our commitment—and our focus on friendships and relationships that will last a lifetime—have truly brought our chapter to the top. So many brothers are doing great things across campus, and I am always proud to wear my letters on my chest. The chapter has improved so much in the past years, and I am truly excited to watch the brothers continue to thrive and excel in all areas."

Jeffrey, a Business Administration major, hopes to graduate in the next couple years and pursue a career in his field. He plans to maintain a strong connection with Georgia Tech and the Alpha Tau chapter of Kappa Sigma and has aspirations to volunteer with the local Children's Miracle Network Hospital.