

Alpha Tau of Kappa Sigma House Corporation

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Frank Gill III

Steve Millspaugh

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Drew Phillip

Charles Spiggle

ON THE WEB

Check your email inbox for the electronic issue of *The Alpha Tauker*, featuring:

- An alumni president report from **Mike Dudgeon '89**
- More history on Alpha Tau nicknames
- A Q&A interview with Alpha Tau's Man of the Year, **Dino Sammarco '06**



THE ALPHA TAUKER

www.kappasigmagt.org

November 2006

Alpha Tau of
Kappa Sigma

By Any Other Name

The Untold History of Nicknames at Alpha Tau

By Geoff Gill '64

At Alpha Tau, at least in the early 60s, some nicknames were the result of the affectation of a friend's name, others were based on personal characteristics, or habits or ticks. Sometimes a particular event could result in a nickname. Suffice it to say, the derivation of nicknames is infinite.

My all-time favorite nickname is 'Sperm.' Now, that's possibly because one of my all time favorite people is Steve Millspaugh, but it is such a great nickname. If the writers for Animal House had only known Steve. Sperm tells me that Ron Mitchell decided to call him 'Millsperm,' which then mutated to Sperm. Contrary to local mythology Steve is the real, and only, Sperm. Sperm, to his everlasting credit, married this beautiful young girl, Cathy, who then became 'Mrs. Sperm.' They both worked at Tech until retirement, and were always known throughout the campus as Sperm, and Mrs. Sperm.

Ron Mitchell, who gave "Sperm" his name, is better known as 'Pigmy.' For those of you who have never had the pleasure of meeting Ron, he is all of 5' 6", and his Lebanese heritage gives him a relatively dark complexion. Plus, if you cross him, he will kill

you with a poison dart.

Sometimes a given name itself demanded a different version: David 'Christmas' Christian, Ron 'Gravel' Pitts, Alfred 'Mendy' Mendoza, Don 'Wilky' Wilkinson, James 'Sandy' Sands, and then if you were Francis Xavier, 'Bubba' was a pretty good addition to Sheehan.

Then there were those nicknames that came from personal characteristics: 'Heap' (Bob Saunders) was purported to be a bit of a slob, 'Squints' (Hoyle Souter), who I thought slept twenty hours a day, 'Injun Joe' (Fred Mills) was part American Indian, 'Coach' (Joe Colvin) played football for Tech, and 'Butt' (Walter McDonald), well let's not go there.

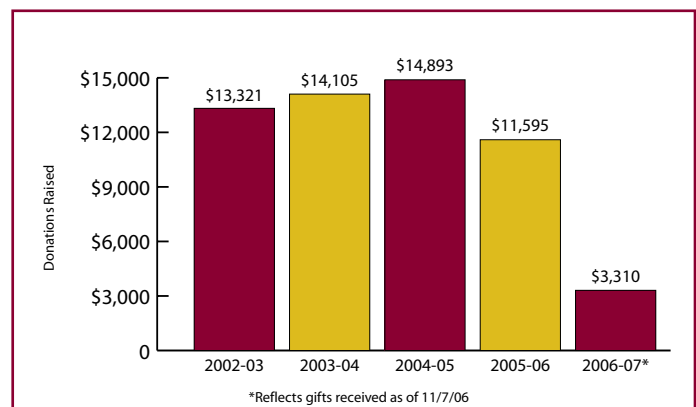
We're interested in collecting more nicknames from our history, or hearing your story about the derivation of a particular nickname. Send your stories to me at ggill@bellsouth.net.

**Check our e-Newsletter
and website for more of
Geoff's nickname stories!**

Contribution Status

Thank You for Your Support!

The Alpha Tau of Kappa Sigma House Corporation would like to thank the alumni donors who made contributions to our annual fund last year. We greatly appreciate the support. If you'd like to show your support in 2006-07, it's easy to do. Just call 800-975-6699, or visit www.kappasigmagt.org to donate.



NEW BROTHERS

On November 5, 2006, the Alpha Tau Chapter initiated a class of 19 worthy gentlemen. We would like to congratulate our newest brothers:

Joel Burlingame
Ernie Cole
Alex Costa
Josh Deves
Travis Gasque
TJ Harrison
Matthew Ludwig
Ryan Maurer
Aaron McClendon
Peter Nguyen
Lane Oglesby
Dylan Parker
Sam Rickles
Chris Shea
Mike Snider
Wesley Stewart
Jason Strane
Matt Tremier
David Wyant

Still the Best in Leadership, Fellowship, Scholarship and Service

Grades Up, Volunteering Up and Brother Inducted Into Greek Honor Society

Scholarship

After revamping the scholarship program, Alpha Tau had a much improved GPA in the spring semester of 2006. The collective GPA for the chapter was a 3.04, which is well above the 2.86 all men's average, and the 2.92 Greek average. A lot of hard work is being placed on scholarship, and that work is starting to pay off.

Leadership

Alpha Tau has a large number of brothers involved in a variety of campus organizations. Some organizations include: Faset, Connect with Tech, GT Ambassadors, Ramblin Reck Club, Alpha Kappa Psi (Business Fraternity), Student Foundation and others. Brother John Ring was recently named to the Order of Omega, a Greek Honor Society. One brother, Bryan Popka, has been a member of this society for a year now.

Fellowship

As always, Alpha Tau has a busy fall schedule. Brotherhood events, Homecoming and football games have filled this semester's social calendar. On October 28 we celebrated

Georgia Tech's homecoming with a great victory over Miami. We placed 3rd in the yard display, and competed in many other events.

Service

Even with our busy schedules, the services participated in by this chapter have increased over the past year. This semester, brothers have already participated in the March of Dimes, food banks, parks, homeless shelters and many others. This year's philanthropy chair, Brother Popka, has done a great job of reminding the chapter of the importance of service.



Bryan Popka 2006 Ramblin Reck Driver and Alpha Tau Philanthropy Chairman

ALUMNI UPDATES

'80s

Steve L. Carter '84

(3222 Symphony Woods Dr., Charlotte, NC 28269-0402; cartergang@carolina.rr.com) Here is a picture of my family during



our recent trip to the Grand Canyon: Wife Pauline, son Will (turns 14 October 1st) and daughter Dory Ann (9). Nice to see the house on the cover of a recent Technique! I was on campus for the Notre Dame game, and things have really changed since I graduated in 1984.

Michael Hickman '88

Along with another Tech grad, I've opened a Keller Williams Realty office in Dawsonville. Jimmy Fortuna, Mark Ramberger and I enjoyed helping Mike Dudgeon win a seat on the Forsyth County School board this July.

'90s



Collin R. Campbell '97

(176 Thompson Lane, Suite 101, Nashville, TN 37211; collin@soltus.com) I married Erin Jandebeur of Nashville, TN on September 1.

Alpha Tau Memories of Thomas Bachman '52 Encompass Finding His Life-Mate, Strange Food and Rituals Better Left in the Past

Nickname "Hauf" Received During Hell Week and Still Used Today

Why did you join the fraternity?

I joined the fraternity because I had friends from when I lived in Charlotte, NC who were members of Alpha Tau. I lived at home when I started at Georgia Tech, and the fraternity house was on the way to, and from, the bus stop.



Bachman '52 retired from Western Electric Company after 26 years. He now thrives through regular exercise, faith in God and strong family ties.

What was your favorite memory of the fraternity?

I don't know that I had a favorite moment, but I did have a lot of good times. I was especially happy when hell night was over and they gave us ice cream (as opposed to something much worse) for the closing of hell week. As I remember, we were blindfolded in the dining room, and they had given us some sort of final talk that had me scared to death, and then, opening my eyes, and seeing the ice cream, brought a much-needed relief. At that time, the house was on the corner of 5th St. where the interstate is now.

Another favorite memory I have is from a party, one Saturday night, at the house. We were in the basement when, as I came down the steps, I saw a girl who I had never seen

before. I said to myself, out loud I believe, "I'm going to marry that girl!" That girl's name was Carmen, and the next September we were married, and we are still hanging around together here in Shreveport, LA 54 years later.

What kind of influence has this had on your life?

The fraternity helped me learn to get along with people I hadn't known before; with whom I then shared a common bond in something we both loved and wanted to make better. From my time at Kappa Sigma, until now, I've had a better life because of the many brothers who were with me in good times and bad.

With whom do you stay in contact?

I'm not in contact with anyone at the present time, although I did run into **Dr. Rex Hawkins '53** in Houston, Texas when I had heart surgery in 1976. I later visited with **Nat Alderman '54** when I lived in Bellaire Beach, FL in the early- to mid-80s.

Tell us about your family.

Carmen and I had three boys and one girl, from 1953-1957, and literally grew up with our children. We have seven grandsons and three granddaughters, two great-granddaughters and one great-grandson. We're truly blessed as they are all doing well, and, for the most part, are in good health.

What other activities or organizations were you involved with during your college days?

I was involved with the Bulldog Club, which involved running the intramural activities, I believe. I was involved with the golf team, and I think I was a representative to the Interfraternity Council (IFC) at some

point. I was the table manager for my junior and senior years. That experience helped me more than I ever could have known at the time.

Funny story: Ruby was our cook at the old house (can't remember if she was at the new house). She once made a meatloaf that everyone loved, and they told me, and I, in turn, told her. Later on we found out it had been horsemeat by mistake. We never had it again. Another time the toast was particularly good, only to find out that a mouse had crawled into the toaster at the wrong time.

"That was a great time in my life and it has many good times associated with it."

Don't know if the Bulldog Club is still there, or not, but its initiation was horrible. The bullpup had to go to a girl's house for Sunday dinner. He had to dress screwy (can't remember that part), make himself as big a nuisance as possible, eat only using a knife, tell the mother how lousy the food was, mess up the bathroom, be as rude as he could, then break out his peanut butter sandwich, eat it, and then leave. My personality did not match up too well with that. The final initiation was a chugalug-type thing that was really dangerous. I was told how to do it, and came through it unscathed, but some actually ended up in the school infirmary for as much as a week or two.

**EXCLUSIVE
On the Web!**

Bachman's complete article is on the Kappa Sigma website at: www.kappasigmagt.org. Please visit to learn about his career as an engineer and read more stories from the past!

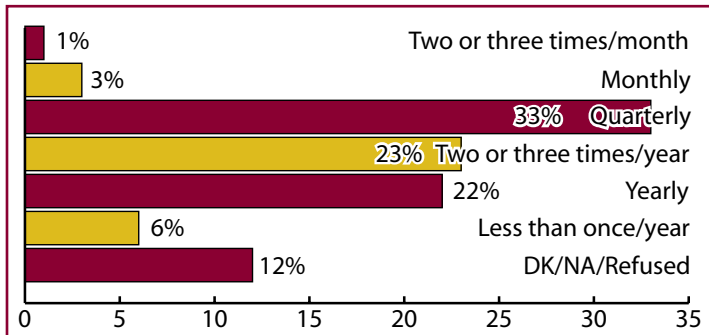
**Do you know of a Kappa Sigma who would make an interesting profile feature?
Send his story to us at content@affinityconnection.com!**

SPRING 2006 PHONE SURVEY RESULTS

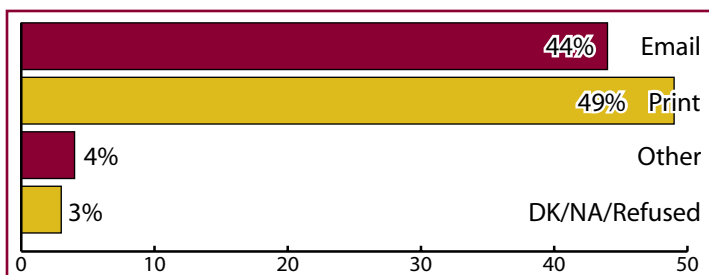
Last spring you may have received a phone call from a representative of the Alpha Tau of Kappa Sigma House Corporation asking a few questions regarding your involvement with the housing corporation

and the Alpha Tau chapter of Kappa Sigma. To those who responded, thank you for your participation! See some of the results below:

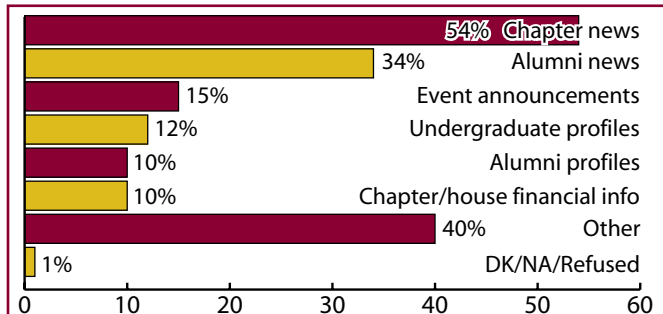
How often would you like to receive communication from the housing corporation?



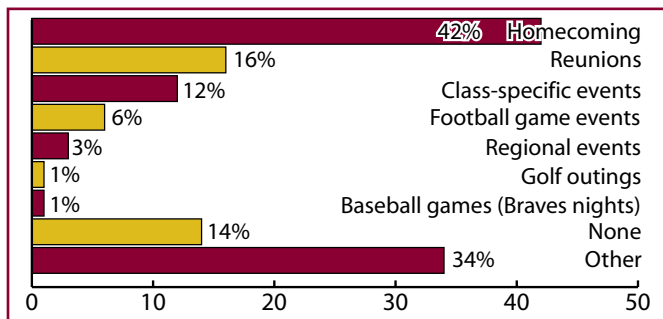
What form of communication do you prefer?



What types of communication most interest you?



What types of alumni events most interest you?



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ALPHA TAU OF KAPPA SIGMA
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*Alpha Tau Memories of Thomas Bachman '52,
Brother Inducted to Greek Honor Society
and Much More. See What's Buzzin' this Fall.*

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