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THANK YOU!

A special thanks to Richard Sperry '59, whose annual fund donation came in at the tail end of the 2016-17 giving year and was not recognized on our recently-published honor roll. Thank you for helping us close out the giving year strong on August 31!

We'd also like to thank the following donors who have helped us kick off the 2017-18 giving year, which began September 1:

Scarlet, White, & Emerald Green Society (\$250-\$499.99)

Joe Rogers	1958
Edward W. Godfrey	1968
Michael J. Lutz	1968

The 1869 Club (\$186.90)

Gordon M. Ryland Jr.	1969
Hall T. Penn	1971
William E. Webb	1992

182 Sixth Street Society (\$182)

John P. Stafford III	1971
Michael W. Alexander	1980

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Robert Denmark	1956
Zelle Lassiter	1957
Kenneth R. Coley	1964
Adam M. Goldstein	2001

Alpha Tau Supporter (\$50-\$99.99)

Robert V. Soderholm	1959
Hal W. Lamb III	1966
Donald E. Wilkinson	1969

Reflects gifts received as of 10/3/17.

Add YOUR name to the donor list in 2017-18 by making your gift:

- At www.kappasigmagt.org
- By calling 800-975-6699
- By mailing a check payable to Alpha Tau House Corp. to the return address on this mailing



THE ALPHA TAUKER

www.kappasigmagt.org

October 2017

Alpha Tau of
Kappa Sigma

CHAPTER REPORT

Alpha Tau Earns Campus and National Recognition and Awards

Kick the Stigma Philanthropy Continues to Raise Awareness for Suicide Prevention



Kappa Sigma continues to maintain its strong legacy by earning campus and international recognition this past academic year. Alpha Tau has earned the following:

- National award for Outstanding Single Philanthropy Event for 2016-17
- Outstanding Grand Master of Ceremonies Award for high levels of involvement, excellent academics, and strong level two ritual proficiency
- 100% level one ritual proficiency

At the time of this writing, the chapter was gearing up for the fourth annual Kick the Stigma charity kickball tournament on November 4. The philanthropy benefits the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention as well as the Mental Health Student Coalition. We're expecting hundreds of students to participate and to build on the success of the three previous years. This year we are sponsored by several local businesses and four sororities.

We'd like to recognize several alumni who have gone above and beyond to exemplify the lifelong commitment to Kappa Sigma. Dino Simmarco and John Merlie have joined an expanded Assistant Alumni Advisory team, which supports the Executive Committee, and Eric Johnston '16, former Grand Master of Alpha Tau, was named the District Grand Master for Central Georgia.

At the house, we are completing several projects to upgrade the security system, doors, air conditioning, and lighting. These improvements will help to save energy costs. We have also restructured our telecommunications and TV billing to save thousands of dollars each year. We'd like to thank the Housing Corporation for helping us to purchase new tables and chairs for the chapter hall.

We hope to see you when you're in town this fall! You're welcome to stop by any time to tour the house and meet the active brotherhood.

ALUMNI Q&A

Sitting in the Upper East Since 1985

Mike Hickman '88 Recalls "Fudging" IDs to Get Good Seats at Grant Field

Thank you to **Mike Hickman '88** for participating in this Q&A...

Which Alpha Tau tradition is the most meaningful to you?

Attending Tech sports together. When I pledged, we lined up and had a red stripe put on our IDs which made us "seniors". That allowed us all to sit together in the Upper East on the north end of the stands. I've been sitting in the Upper East since 1985.

What did the fraternity teach you about leadership?

More than anything, it taught me how to deal with different personalities and talk through an issue in chapter meetings.

What is your funniest fraternity memory?

It wasn't so funny then, but the time that Robb Stanek (and possibly others) tied my door shut, then put a dining room table up against my window with a running sprinkler between the window and the table. Of course, my girlfriend was with me in Room 8. I was able to just open the door enough to cut the rope with my hunting knife. Then, I went next door and woke up Vince Fettinger asking who had done all this. All he could see was the big knife I had in my hand. I realized later it wasn't the best look... By the way, that girlfriend ended up a Starduster, Alpha Tau Sweetheart, and my bride.

In what ways have you stayed connected with Alpha Tau Chapter as an alum?

I'm always around on game days, via email or social media.

What's new in your life today?

My son (Epsilon Omega of Kappa Sigma) is engaged to be married in June 2018. My daughter is a year from graduating early from Kennesaw State. One of the coolest things to happen to me this year was to help Brother David Sykes' daughter Hailey find a phenomenal first home near Emory. Since then, we've purchased a condo between Midtown and Downtown that we are using a few days a week when needed. It will really come in handy for Tech football and basketball.

RUSH RESULTS

Chapter Welcomes 24 New Members

Join Us in Welcoming Our Fall 2017 Pledge Class

Will Berry – Alpharetta, GA
Reed Bethune – Sandy Springs, GA
Michael Brolly – Milton, GA
Addison Brown – Austin, TX
Jacob Buck – Sandy Springs, GA
Tyrus Evans – Tampa, FL
Jonathan Faris – Columbus, OH
Spenser Fishman – Westfield, NJ
Brendan Flynn – Fairfield, CT
Jake Fogarty – Boston, MA
John Lyons – Atlanta, GA
Andrew Mandel – Morristown, NJ
Thomas McKinstry – Dunwoody, GA
Cole Mooney – Acworth, GA
Sam Naab – Woodstock, GA
Ryan Pate – Atlanta, GA
Brian Piejack – Kennesaw, GA
Nick Porcelli – Snellville, GA
Robert Schaffer – Sandy Springs, GA
Brenden Selton – Jacksonville, FL
Tristian Smith – Norcross, GA
Colin Steinbach – Sugar Hill, GA
Alex Stevens – Canton, GA
Daniel Tremor – Olney, MD



The Fall 2017 pledge class (in white shirts and bow ties) with the rest of the Alpha Tau brotherhood.

Off the Beaten Path

A Chance Fraternity Visit Leads to a Lifetime of Connections for Robb Stanek '90

For **Robb Stanek '90**, Kappa Sigma was a unique fraternity in many ways, including the location of the house. To him, that was a huge draw to joining the fraternity his freshman year.

“Kappa Sigma was a bunch of great guys that didn’t fit a stereotype,” he explained. “It was not on the beaten path and I almost missed it. Boy, am I glad I stopped in!”

From the moment he became a Kappa Sig, Robb’s membership in the fraternity shaped his college experience into one of his most cherished times in life.

“Living in Room 3 in the old house was one of the most incredible times of my life,” he said. “Learning to live with a wide variety of brothers was very helpful. You had to give a little here and there for harmony. Does anyone remember Strategic Doughnut Initiative or the Cuervo chair? I bet we could all write a book on the happenings at that house,” he laughed.

Socially, Kappa Sig was a mecca of opportunity for Robb to enjoy his college years, especially in the Lobby, where some of his fondest memories were made.

“The Lobby was a magnet for all sorts of things – spades/hearts, completely random and hilarious conversations, there are so many stories,” he recalled. “I also have great memories of Luau and Logging, the Black and White formal, Wednesday nights at PJ’s, Spring Break in Breckenridge, spur of the moment road trips, and so many more. Kappa Sigma was a constant source of entertainment.”

While he certainly enjoyed himself, Robb did find that too much of a good thing can be detrimental to the academic side of school. But, he also found out that his fraternity brothers were there to help him succeed.

“I usually joke that I majored in Fraternity with a minor in Engineering,” he chuckled. “I would have crumbled without the support from older, more experienced



Robb Stanek '90 and his family on one of their many travels.

and business development, currently working for a technology company that is based out of Boston. He is married to his wife, Kim (a Tech grad as well), and together they have a daughter who just began her freshman year in high school. Robb and his family like to travel whenever possible and experience the world.

“We’re definitely travel junkies, so any time there is a school break, we’re off somewhere,” he said. His daughter has been to all 50 states, and “we’re now making our way overseas here and there,” he said.

In addition to travelling, Robb is an avid outdoorsman.

“Hiking and backpacking top my list but mountain biking and paddling are both a close second,” he shared. “Basically, I like anything that involves being outside and getting my heart rate up.”

Part of his travels do include visits back to his old stomping grounds on the Georgia Tech campus, usually returning for tailgate parties and Homecomings. Going back to the house yields great memories for Robb.

“It’s always good to catch up and be on campus,” he said. “It makes me feel nostalgic. It is also great to see brothers whose own kids now attend Tech.”

Seeing Kappa Sig families come full circle is part of the reason Robb supports the fraternity, making annual donations to the house corporation, as well as supporting the recent campaign.

“It’s always a pleasure to support a brotherhood that meant so much to me personally,” he said

Looking back, Robb recognizes the major impact that Kappa Sig has had on his life and he is grateful for the experience.

“Georgia Tech is an incredible education and network. When you add in the connections you make with Kappa Sigma, it’s a very powerful start to a life and career.”

brothers. I can still remember Hal Buford taking me aside and helping me register for my 2nd quarter. I also remember using Neil “Tumbleweed” Kahle’s co-op registration time slot to reserve the best classes.”

And even after graduation, the support continued.

“Having an older brother kicking me in the rear to get involved on campus made a huge difference in my first job at our Alumni Association. It was all about the network,” he stated.

“Georgia Tech is an incredible education and network. When you add in the connections you make with Kappa Sigma, it’s a very powerful start to a life and career.”

To this day, that network of brothers remains strong, with Robb staying connected to many of them. Even though he is more in touch with those brothers in the Atlanta area, he still manages to fit in a call or visit with others. Robb also still sees his big brother, Todd Danielson, a couple of times each year.

Today, Robb has made his career in sales



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*Alpha Tau Earns Recognition On Campus
and at the National Level!*



ALUMNI EVENTS

Alpha Tau Connections Go Global

Thanks to Adam Goldstein '01 for sending us some great pictures to kick off the 2017 season! He sent us some snapshots from the Alpha Tau group trip to Dublin for the GT vs. BC game, held opening weekend of 2016.

Find more of his photos and share your own at
www.kappasigmagt.org.



FROM THE ARCHIVES



Can You Believe It's Been 51 Years?

We love coming across great old photos from our chapter archives, like this one from the 1966 football season. Check out these brothers and friends in the stands! Can anyone from this picture weigh in on the best times from the mid-'60s? We invite alumni from ALL eras to share the best pictures and memories from their Kappa Sig days at www.kappasigmagt.org.