

Alpha-Delta News

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AT THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

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Alpha-Delta News is published for the alumni and friends of the **Alpha-Delta** Chapter of **Kappa Sigma** Fraternity at The **Pennsylvania State University**. Address changes, news items, photographs and contributions may be sent in the enclosed envelope and mailed to **Kappa Sigma Fraternity, Alumni Relations Office, P.O. Box 296, State College, PA 16804-0296** or sent via our Web site at www.kappasigpsu.com.

President's

Report

Musical Theater Major Just One of Chapter's Stars

Dear Alpha-Delta Alumni,

I had the pleasure of witnessing a terrific performance by Penn State students from the musical theater program and the Essence of Joy choir. The event, held March 31, 2004, at The Lincoln Center in New York City, was for Penn State alumni and guests.

During the performance, I remembered that one of our active brothers, Jason Fahey, was involved with theater performances at Penn State. Sure enough, Jason's name was in the program.

Jason Fahey is a second-year musical theater student. Musical theatre students are recruited nationally and admitted to the program only after passing a rigorous audition. Fewer than one in 20 applicants is admitted into this program.

Not only was Jason in this performance, but he was also one of the very few members to perform a solo performance. Jason sang "Where Was I When They Passed Out Luck" from Minnie's Boys.

His performance was excellent and truly impressive. Jason's talent, as well as that of the entire Penn State performance group, was clearly of a professional caliber.

I enjoyed witnessing the remarkable talent that Penn State students possess. It was even more gratifying to see one of our own Kappa Sigma brothers steal the spotlight with his outstanding solo performance. I believe you will be hearing more about Jason as his career advances!

With this newsletter we offer another outstanding alumni profile, as these are always very popular with our alumni readers. I am sure you will find this profile on Brother George Middlemas '68 very interesting to read. George is a very loyal supporter of our chapter and his contributions are greatly appreciated!

The actives recruited 10 pledges during spring rush and are well on their way to becoming a top fraternity on campus. Please see the undergraduate updates for all of the details.

I hope this newsletter finds all of our alumni doing well in their personal and professional lives. Start marking your calendars for the upcoming football season and homecoming.

Fraternally Yours,

Edward D. Gorkes '79
President ■



Risk Is Not a Bad Word for George Middlemas

Breaking your neck at the age of 17 may not sound like a blessing in disguise to most people, but it taught George Middlemas '68, highly successful venture capitalist, a valuable life lesson. "After all, surviving a broken neck puts a different perspective on what most other people might consider risk taking in investing," observed Middlemas. The accident occurred during a high school gymnastics exercise. Gymnastics may have taught him a lot about flexibility, too. "Times change. You have to be able to take control of your own life."

George Middlemas has certainly done that. He came to Penn State with the encouragement of **Fletcher Byrom** who had been named a distinguished alumnus in 1963 and served on the Board of Trustees in the early '70s. Middlemas demonstrated the respect and appreciation he felt for Byrom's interest in him as a young man when he funded the Fletcher L. Byrom Earth and Science Library: Program and Collections Endowment at Penn State in 2001.

Middlemas rushed Kappa Sigma at Penn State because he thought the brothers were a great group of young men. When asked what event he remembers most vividly from his days living in the house, he said, "Of course, things like Spring Week stand out. We did some really fun shows paired with different sororities. I always enjoyed the theatrical activities. But there was one particular event that involved a papier-mâché Santa Claus that I'm sure other brothers will remember with a good laugh!" If the brother responsible for that prank is reading this, your secret is still safe. No names were divulged! Middlemas could often be found hanging out with brothers **Ron Abbruzzese, George Taylor, John Rogers, Joe LoPriore, and Al Waldhuber**.

Middlemas was one of two student members of the Faculty Senate on campus and graduated with a degree in history and political science. He then earned an M.A. from the University of Pittsburgh and an M.B.A. from Harvard University. He went to New York City to start with Arthur Young in the merger and acquisitions business.

By 1979, he had discovered the investment sectors that really excited him — telecommunications, software, and information technology. He has been involved with venture investing ever since. He eventually became a vice president with Citicorp Venture Capital and later senior vice president and principal of Inco Venture Capital Management. One start-up company that particularly caught his interest in the early '80s was Quantum Computer Services. He stuck with it through some tough times. That company

“Middlemas rushed Kappa Sigma at Penn State because he thought the brothers were a great group of young men.”

eventually became America Online. He was instrumental in restructuring the company and the initial public offering. He met Sherry Petska in 1985, and after a typically long New York courtship, they married in 1991. Before the year was out, the couple moved to Chicago where he is now a managing general partner with Apex Venture Partners. The firm has more than \$450 million under management.

Sherry and George Middlemas actively support the arts both in the Chicago area and New York. Sherry is the chairman of the board for Sherwood Conservatory of Music in Chicago. They are also supporters of the Chicago and New York Metropolitan Operas and the Joffrey Ballet of Chicago. They are big fans and supporters of Penn State as well. They have made many contributions to university funds and activities including the Ruth C. Silva Scholarship in the College of Liberal Arts. Middlemas is chairman of the University Libraries' Grand Destiny Campaign and a member of the President's Club, the Mt. Nittany Society, the Laurel Circle, and the Atherton Society. He and Sherry are especially

proud of the library endowment they have established to honor both their fathers' service in World War II, the Eighth Air Force Archive. In 2002, Middlemas was honored with the Alumni Fellow Award, the alumni association's highest honor for a leader in a professional field.

The couple enjoys golf and snow skiing. They have a home in Beaver Creek, Colo., where they go to escape winter in Chicago. They go to most of the PSU home football games. He keeps close tabs on many of the events in State College. When asked what he would like to do when he gets to retire one of these days, Middlemas had a surprising answer, "I'd really like to write. I have always been a history buff and am particularly interested in Winston Churchill. I would like to write a novel about World War II and the years immediately after."

Thanks to a generous endowment, there is now a special library archive at Penn State with an outstanding collection of sources from that period where he can begin his research.

Brothers may contact Sherry and George Middlemas at geomiddl@apexvc.com. ■

Easter Activity

Kappa Sigma Gets Kids Egg-cited with Easter Hunt

Beginning with last semester's Halloween party, we've been working to spread the word that Kappa Sigma is more than just a fraternity and that we want to improve relations with the community. To further this goal, Kappa Sigma, with the help of the Tri-Sigma sorority, held its first annual egg hunt April 7, 2004, for the children of the community. Families enjoyed pizza and other treats as they watched their children decorate eggs with Greek students and then run around in an Easter egg hunt. About 10 children and their parents attended. ■

Weekend

By Andre Aklian

Blue-White Weekend a Festive Celebration

Our Blue-White Weekend celebration was a lot of fun this year. Some alumni rolled in Friday night and got to catch up with old friends at the bars of State College. The next morning, we all gathered at our usual spot for a nice tailgate, with a lot of good food and good times. The Blue-White Dinner started out with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, including shrimp and buffalo wings. The dinner was grilled chicken and our cook, Judy, did a great job. We even had a Kappa Sigma cake for dessert!

The Blue-White scholarship winners were Brian Laino and Darren Duhnke, two hard-working brothers with good grades and dedication. Our Brother of the Year was Tim Scanlon, whose hard work as our 'Thon chair helped us raise \$22,450. After dinner, all the brothers enjoyed the rest of the evening to their leisure, either downstairs in our party room or out on the town. **Wes Link** was once again a lot of fun and had so many stories for us all to enjoy.

Hope to see you all there next year! ■



Kappa Sigma award winners from left to right: Tim Scanlon (Brother of the Year) and Brian Laino and Darren Duhnke (scholarship winners).

2004



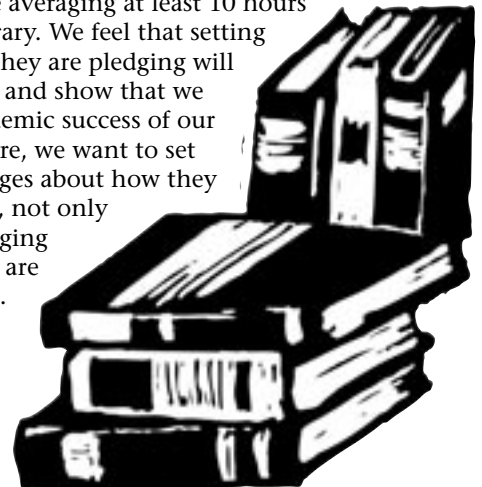
Raffle

Academic Raffle: the Ticket to Better Grades

In an effort to raise our chapter's GPA, we have reinstated an academic raffle, whereby brothers can earn tickets for achieving academic excellence in their classes. At the last meeting of the year, the tickets will be placed in a box and then a winner will be drawn at random to win a gift certificate to Best Buy. We use this as an incentive for the brothers to care about their grades, not only for their own future success but also so they can earn rewards for working hard in their classes.

Our pledges are making great strides with their own grades, as they all have been attending their study hours every night and are averaging at least 10 hours per week in the library. We feel that setting study hours while they are pledging will set a good example and show that we care about the academic success of our chapter. Furthermore, we want to set an example to pledges about how they should be studying, not only when they are pledging but also when they are in the brotherhood.

Fraternally Yours,
Mike Samick ■



Alumni UpDates

H. Paul Starr '51

(130 Old Route 8 S., Valencia, PA 16059-2022; hpstarr@aol.com) Brothers **Guy Pietz '51**, **Sam Stewart '50**, **Mal Pancoast '51**, **Henry Lozar '52**, **Gordon Olsen '52**, **Joe Lindsey '51** and their wives joined my wife and me in celebrating our 50th wedding anniversary at the Butler Country Club this past July.

Kenneth I. Outwater '57

(37482 S. Ridgeview Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85739-1168; kioutwater@robsoncom.net) I started scuba diving this year and am now running for the Saddlebrook, Ariz., homeowner's board.

John N. Cover '63

(P.O. Box 333, 305 Main St., Meyersdale, PA 15552-0333; rainbow1@pennswoods.net) My fiancée, Elizabeth, and I moved Jan. 1, 2004, to Hudson, Fla. I sold my recording studio and retired for the second and last time. Hudson is on the Gulf Coast, about an hour north of Tampa Bay, so I'm sailing again. We continue to do musical shows for picnics, etc. When they tell us about the extreme heat of summer, I am reminded of what my old roomie, "Skimo," said of Texas. He said he learned to sweat better than he ever shivered!

Thomas C. Hilbert '63

(1980 Marchmont Rd., Cleveland, OH 44122-2849; thomashilbert@sbcglobal.net) Anne and I celebrated our 20th anniversary last July. We gave ourselves a trip for the occasion. From Dec. 3, 2003, to Jan. 3, 2004, we traveled to New Zealand and Australia. We did all the things tourists do, visiting Auckland, Rotarura, Queenstown, Milford Sound, Christchurch, Sydney, Ayers Rock, Cairns, Hayman Island, the Great Barrier Reef and Melbourne.

Myron L. Lecklitner '64

(5505 Oak Park Ct., Mobile, AL 36609-2844; lleck@dnamail.com) I was saddened to learn of the passing away of **James F. Cataldo**, a.k.a. "Big Jim." Those who knew him will not soon forget him. Perhaps that's why I retired from medi-

cine. This passage through life is all too brief, so get out there and live it up!

Rick Kelly '70

(901 N. Monroe St., #410, Arlington, VA 22201; kellyrl@hqmc.usmc.mil) I had many Kappa Sigmas attend the Marine Corps' Evening Parade in the summer of 2003 at Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C.

A. George Makdad '71

(135 Bristlewood Ct., Rockton, IL 61072-3217; gmakdad@dairiconcepts.com) I am a grandfather to five kids.

Robert L. Berk '76

(6890 Crestview Rd., Erie, IL 61250-9792; theberks@accessus.net) Carol and I have been married for 25 years. We have three sons — Ed, Bill and Sam. I still work for the Army. AEKDB!

Wesley C. Osborn '81

(105 Philadelphia Dr., Madison, AL 35758-8236; ozy37@msn.com) After graduation, I spent 10 years with Boeing, where I earned my master's in business administration at Seattle University, and later moved to Northern Alabama. In my time here, I've spent five years as a machinist and the past five years working as a buyer, inventory management specialist and IT manager for a wire and cable distributor. My wife, Marcia, and I met on the Internet when chat rooms were in their infancy. She comes from Buckeye territory. We have a daughter, Diana, 11, and twin sons, Jason and Evan, both 3. Unfortunately, I haven't been back to State College, Pa., since graduation, but I would surely love to get back! My free time is spent golfing (rarely), doing home improvement (constantly) and playing some computer games. Call me at (256) 837-6294.

Michael W. Carrell '86

(20 Windsor Crescent, Hornell Heights, ON P0H) We moved to North Bay, Ontario, Canada, in June 2003. I am the commander of all U.S. forces assigned to the Canadian Air Defense Sector for Norad. It's a great area, and we even get

to see a few PSU games on television. If anyone is in Northern Ontario, look us up.

Jeffrey W. Montgomery '94

(5286 Lela Dr., Charleston, SC 29418-5715; jeff_montgomery@hotmail.com) I started my own software development company here in Charleston, S.C., and got married to my long-time girlfriend, Anna, about a year ago. **Steve Guzo '92** was my best man, and I was glad to see all the brothers that attended. I saw **Kevin Coppins '92** and **Brian Roakes '94** (and his baby) in Tampa, Fla., this spring. **Matt Bennett '94** calls me frequently, but I've got caller ID now so less of the calls get through these days.

Chad Nichols '95

(9 Sonny Dr., Old Forge, PA 18518-1127; mechadman@verizon.net) I joined the Marine Corps in December 1994 and was honorably discharged in December 2002. I got married Sept. 7, 2001. My baby boy, Garret James, was born Aug. 19, 2000, and my baby girl, Trinity Marie, was born prematurely Sept. 17, 2003. I currently reside in Old Forge, Pa.

Michael L. Reinert '97

(740 Golden Drive, Blandon, PA 19510; mreinert@technicon2.com) Life is good. After two and a half months in the Hershey Medical Center NICU, Abigail Kathryn is home and doing well. We are building a new house in Oley, Pa. — the home of Brother **Stump** — and are looking forward to the move. I'm looking forward to the reunion with brothers **JT Kelley '97** and **Jason Lytle '97** and their "additions" very soon. ■

In Memory

Since our last publication, we have learned of the deaths of

James M. Thompson '47 (10/26/01)
William Buhrman '70

Kappa Sigma mourns their passing and extends condolences to their families and friends.