

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Feeling Happy In The Valley

State College is just the place for a Spring, Summer, or Fall reunion with your Kappa Sig Brothers. Check out these great events happening, and plan to attend one, or all!



#### Annual Blue/White Spring Practice

When- April 21, 2018,  
Time TBD

Where- Beaver Stadium,  
State College, Pa

For more, visit  
[gopsusports.com](http://gopsusports.com)

**We Are Weekend,**  
Celebration of the class of  
1968's 50<sup>th</sup> reunion, and  
Penn State Pioneers

When- June 1-3, 2018

Where- Penn State, University  
Park Campus

The Alumni Association will host We Are Weekend, a three-day celebration that'll provide plenty of memorable moments to remind Penn Staters why the University holds a special place in their hearts.

For more, visit [news.psu.edu](http://news.psu.edu)

#### Homecoming 2018

When- October 13, VS  
Michigan State, time TBD

Where- Beaver Stadium

Join your Kappa Sig Brothers as Penn State looks to avenge last season's, last-second heartbreaker in East Lansing.



# Alpha-Delta News

A PUBLICATION OF KAPPA SIGMA FRATERNITY  
AT THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

[www.kappasigpsu.com](http://www.kappasigpsu.com)

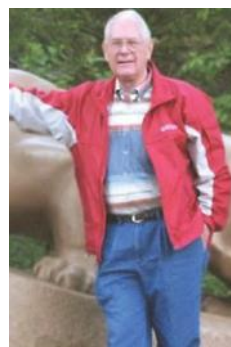
## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

### Ed Schmidt '61

#### How "Eskimo," Made It From Alaska To Happy Valley

Brother Ed Schmidt is a member of the Penn State University Class of 1961. Brother Schmidt was one of several who had the unique experience of living in the old Beaver Street chapter house as the new one was being built around it. Brother Ed also lived in the new Beaver St. house in 1962 as a graduate student. Before attending Penn State, Brother Schmidt lived in Alaska, where his father was stationed as a part of the U.S Air Force, and began his undergraduate studies at the University of Alaska. Brother Schmidt then transferred to Penn State and was given the affectionate nickname of "Eskimo," which was later shortened to "Skimo."

After graduating from Penn State, Brother Schmidt served five years of active duty in the U.S Air Force and was one of the first Commanders of a Minuteman missile crew



right after the Cuban Missile Crisis. As a part of his duties, he was responsible for monitoring and initiating the potential launch of 10 nuclear ICBM's. After active duty, Brother Schmidt served for 20 years in the Air Force reserves and retired as a Major.

After active duty, Brother Ed was a National Accounts sale manager for Sweetheart Cup Corporation and then spent 28 years in sales management with the Kellogg's organization. Brother Schmidt has resided in Dallas, Texas for the past 39 years and is a proud father to a son and a daughter, a grandfather to four grandchildren, and a great-grandfather to six great-grandchildren. Getting to know Brother Ed has been a real pleasure and he makes myself, and the rest of the active brothers proud to continue the legacy of the Alpha-Delta Chapter of Kappa Sigma on this campus.

## THON 2018

### Thank You THON Dancers

In early November, Alpha Delta held its annual elections for THONdancers. Alpha Delta was awarded two dancers for THON 2018, and the elected dancers are responsible for representing the chapter on the floor all 46 hours of THON weekend in mid-February. Alpha Delta elected **Ben Colasante '18** and **Jacob Ward '19** as dancers.

Ben has volunteered as a Rules and Regulations committee member in the past and is the current THON Overall Chairman for the chapter. Jacob served as THON Finance Chairman last year and has only missed 2 hours of THON weekend since coming to Penn State.



*Last year's THON raised \$10,151,663.93*

## ALL HAIL THE KING!

### Kappa Sig Alex Shockley Crowned 2017 Homecoming King

If you were at 2017's Penn State Homecoming game against Rutgers, you saw first-hand one of our very own crowned this year's Homecoming king!

Alex Shockley, a junior, says "It was a great honor. It was just a true representation of what I hope to achieve at Penn State. It showed I wanted to make a difference and do that to the best of my ability...I was able to say, wow, Penn State is proud for me to be a student, and I'm proud to be at Penn State."

Shockley rushed during his sophomore year. After coming to Penn State, he was trying to find his way, and became involved with a lot of groups and activities. However, he says he "didn't really find a core group of guys [he] could reach out to, [who would] always be there when [he] needed them." Growing up without a brother, Shockley says he was able to find the sense of brotherhood and community he was looking for at Kappa Sig almost immediately.

So far, he notes, "It's been great. I was really involved in my sophomore and junior years. I'm also really involved in student government, so my time [with the fraternity] is more limited now...The guys in my fraternity and pledge class are my best friends. I lived in the house last year and it was a great feeling when I had a busy day...to go home and just sit down with my brothers and talk about my day and how we were feeling and let off steam. I couldn't have asked for anything better. Joining a



fraternity was my best decision of my college career..."

However, Shockley also admits the face of Greek life at Penn State is changing, and that could be a good thing. With many fraternities founded on a certain value, tradition, need or common theme, returning to these roots is something Shockley sees a need for, and these traditions should motivate recruits to join.

"If you want a group of guys who really can bond over different things and come together from all different areas of life, that's why you should join a fraternity," he says. "I think it's essential that every fraternity goes back to the reason they were founded and compare that to the reason people join now. There is a very large population out there that join Greek life to party or have a social setting, which isn't necessarily wrong, but the root of why they join should be

the original reason the fraternity was founded...Chapter leadership needs to take that into consideration now. If someone isn't willing to recognize the four colors...maybe they don't deserve to be a brother. Look for quality, not quantity...of men."

Shockley also admits that the undergrads need the Kappa Sig alums now more than ever, particularly with all the rapid changes coming to Greek life. "It's important to evaluate our history and what Kappa Sigma used to look like, and what it looks like now. We still believe in Kappa Sigma... When a fraternity has the great support of alumni, it's the best it can be. I think it's so essential that alumni come back to speak to us and reach out to us. They have gone through what we have gone through. They're a resource for now and the future."

Shockley is a hospitality management major, and his primary extracurricular activity has been student government, with roles as vice president of the student body, speaker of the assembly, student senator and more. After graduating with honors, he plans to work at Hilton Global Headquarters, in McLean, Va., as a coordinator in the corporate responsibility department, combining his love of philanthropy with his love of hospitality, working on issues regarding sustainability, environmental impacts, community relationships and more.

## CHAPTER PHILANTHROPY

### Military Heroes Campaign

Last April, Alpha Delta chapter began what it hopes to be an annual tradition. Brother **Mark Shust '20** had the idea to unite all of Penn State Greek Life through a fun philanthropy event. The first-annual Greek Life Color Run brought together almost 20 fraternities and sororities as well as raise almost \$4,000 for Military Heroes Campaign.

A color run is an electrifying 5K run where there are paint stops along the way where participants can splash themselves and other participants with paint powder. The run started at the Alpha Delta Chapter house and three other fraternities participated as paint stops. Once participants ran through all the paint stops they returned to the front lawn at Alpha Delta to continue the paint party. All the



participants and volunteers enjoyed the event and students hope that the Greek Life Color Run will continue as a staple of the spring semester.

Hoping to make the second-annual Greek Life Color Run and event bigger success than the first year, Alpha Delta is looking to get alumni, friends, and family involved. Alpha Delta is looking for general advice about making the Color Run as successful as possible, as well as assistance with collecting event materials such as paint packets, advertising, and custom t-shirts

for the event. If you would like to get involved or learn more about the second-annual Greek Life Color Run benefiting Kappa Sigma's Military Heroes Campaign please contact Mark Shust at [markshust5@gmail.com](mailto:markshust5@gmail.com).

## Starting Rush Off on the Right Foot and Getting to Know the Rushees

The spring 2018 Rush period began on Monday, January 15th. Traditionally, the only events allowed during the first week of rush are Zone Days. Each Fraternity is assigned a day during the week where they can meet potential Rushees and offer them a tour of the Chapter House. Zone Days are determined based on the geographic location of each Fraternity. Alpha Delta's Zone Day was on Thursday, January 18th. Over 150 Rushees came to see what Alpha Delta had to offer.



The goal of each Alpha Delta rush event is to allow the Brothers and rushees to get to know one another. Through our events, rushees are able to get a glimpse of what it's like to be a gentleman of Kappa Sigma, and the actives get to meet their potential new Brothers for the very first time. Rush Chairmen spend a lot of time and energy planning and organizing the perfect events to bond Brothers and rushees together.

This semester, freshman who have accumulated at least 12 credits in the fall are eligible to rush and in total, almost 1,000 students have signed up to rush this semester. Alpha Delta is looking to recruit its largest pledge class in recent Chapter history. The benefit of a larger pledge class is to offer the opportunity to be molded into a Kappa Sigma gentleman to as many students as possible.

Spring Rush Chairmen **Drew Tocherman '20** and **Joey Nocera '20** decided to take advantage of a respite from the frigid State College weather and held a barbeque on Saturday, January 20th. Rushees were treated to burgers and hotdogs while getting to know the brothers of Alpha Delta quite a bit more.

However, quality is always more important than quantity and it's inevitable that some potential pledges will not meet the high standards that are required to be deemed worthy to wear the Badge of the Order.

On Wednesday, January 24th, Alpha Delta held a wing eating competition for the rushees. Drew and Joey must be following the old saying "The quickest way to win a rushee over is with free food." Keep up the great work and finish the rush season out strong, Drew and Joey.

## ANNUAL FUND UPDATE

### Rob Vrablik – Alpha Delta Brother of the Month

#### *Alpha Delta Goes Above and Beyond*



Awards Chairman, **Alex Cheesman '18**, decided that he wanted to reward brothers who go above and beyond for Alpha Delta, whether it is in the classroom, with the duties of their chair position, or just in general service to the chapter. Each month one brother will be selected for special recognition for going above and beyond and exemplifying the four pillars of Kappa Sigma; Fellowship, Leadership, Scholarship, and Service. The brother of the month is **Rob Vrablik '18**. Brother Vrablik is a senior and

is graduating at the end of the semester. Rob was initiated in the Spring 2016 semester and practices the Kappa Sigma virtues taught to him by Pledge Educator **Niko Kotsaftis '18** way back when. Even as a senior preparing for life after Alpha Delta and Penn State, Rob continues to be one of the most heavily involved brothers, rarely ever missing a service event or a chapter meeting. Thank you for being a proud gentleman of Kappa Sigma and may success attend your efforts Brother Vrablik.

## KAPPA SIG FLASHBACK ARCHIVE



## HOLIDAY LIGHTS

### Active Chapter Shows Its Festive Spirit

The active members of Alpha Delta displayed their Christmas spirit during the 2017 holiday season by decorating the inside and outside of the chapter house. Preparations for the inside of the house began as soon as brothers returned from Thanksgiving break. Several brothers brought back boxes and boxes of unused Christmas decorations generously donated by their families. The decorating began in just the living room but soon spread to the rest of the first floor and up the main staircase. For the last three weeks

of the fall semester, the only video played on the house television was a Christmas movie or a roaring fireplace.

The outside of the chapter house was also decorated for the holidays. The Borough of State College encourages fraternities to decorate their chapter house with Christmas lights to participate in their Holiday Lights bus tours for the residents of State College. Fraternities that participate receive community service hours in addition to spreading some holiday cheer. Brothers were

creative in lighting up the outside of the house as they outlined the flagpole as well as the walkway in front of the house.

The holiday spirit from decorating continued into the end of semester formal dated function. Active brothers and their dates enjoyed a relaxing evening of fine dining, picture taking, dancing, and Christmas music. Three separate Christmas trees were decorated to help set the mood, however the centerpiece of the event was a “Stranger Things” themed Greek Alphabet picture wall.



## ALUMNI NEWS

### An Update from H. Wesley Link '55



“I will be living with my daughter’s family as of 5/1/18, in Downingtown, Pa.

My favorite Kappa Sigma memory was the Fraternity’s 100-year birthday

gathering at Alpha Delta in 1992.

If it weren’t for Kappa Sigma, I never would have met my wife, Barbara, who I was married to for 55 years and 10 months. We had two daughters, who have given us five grandchildren. One child, Kristen Peterson, is a freshman at the Penn State Altoona campus.

I am proud of what the Brothers have done for the past 10 years. Building the fraternity from 34 in house to the 60-80 members, and they are a top fraternity at Penn State. I continue to contribute to help the fraternity pay their bills — this lets the Brothers know you still love Alpha Delta.”

## A LETTER FROM THE ALUMNI RELATIONS CHAIR

### Active Chapter Shows Its Festive Spirit

Greetings Brothers,

My name is Zach Watkins and I was elected as the Alumni Relations chairman for the spring semester. I am a History major and pledged in the fall 2015 semester as a freshman. I am hoping to leave a lasting impression throughout this semester by holding four chair positions. So far I have had the honor of serving Alpha Delta as a Greek Sing chair in 2016, that year we placed 3rd overall, a member of the Rush committee, and most recently as Grand Procurator for the past year.

I have several ambitious goals for my term as Alumni Relations chairman, the most important of which is to strengthen the intergenerational bonds between all of our brothers. The active chapter is always open to advice and encouragement from alumni and love to hear stories and memories from the past. The Chapter house is certainly our home away from home and we want to extend that hospitality to our alumni as often as possible. Please do not hesitate to drop by to take a tour and meet the actives whenever you are in town. You can contact myself, Jake, or any of the other chairmen whose information is also included in these reports. In particular there are several events each year such as Homecoming, White Out, THON, Blue & White, and the Alpha Delta Alumni Open Golf Tournament that we encourage you to consider coming home to State College.

We cannot wait to meet you and will continue to strive to make our esteemed alumni proud as we continue to be the Fraternity Standard at Penn State. A to B.

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