

Georgia Tech to Form Greek Alumni Council

The Georgia Tech Alumni Association will form a Greek Alumni Council to provide support to the Greek community at Tech. The plan is to involve Greek alumni as a positive, proactive influence for the betterment of Tech as a whole. The objectives of the council will be to:

- Collect and provide best practices information for recruiting and organizing alumni, and for mentoring students in scholarship, social norms and chapter finances.
- Develop cooperative programs for insurance, fire safety, housekeeping and other needs that may arise.
- Advise Georgia Tech's Greek students on development of policies and provide respected intermediaries involving students and national chapters.

The alumni association understands the importance of the Greek community to Tech. Their research shows that Greeks have higher freshman retention and higher graduation rates than does the general student population. A quick review of the members of any of the alumni boards of Tech would show a disproportionate number of Greek alumni participating. In 2003 there was an 18-percent increase in fraternity pledges, and 32 percent of the freshman class pledged a fraternity or sorority, compared to a normal rate of 25 percent.

The council will consist of alumni representatives from each of the currently active fraternities and sororities at Tech (there are 44 in 2003). The council will elect an executive committee of 10 members to administer the council. The alumni association plans to complete the organization of the council by April 2004.

Alpha Tau's representative will be **Robb Stanek '90**. Robb worked for the alumni association for several years as the marketing director. He was the chapter alumni adviser during the late '90s and brings with him a keen sense of the issues affecting relations between fraternities and the hill. ■



Alumni Profile

Q+A with **Ted Haney '61**

Stolen Away by the Kappa Sigs

Ted Haney '61 once considered becoming a Phi Gam. We're glad he didn't, and that he went Kappa Sigma instead. He says he learned a lot at Kappa Sig and gained a number of friends for life.

Why did you join Kappa Sigma?

I had worked during the summer with **Donnie Stallings '60**, and he invited **Don Hodges '61** and me to a party when we returned in the fall. We were both pledged to Phi Gamma Delta at the time, but had deferred initiation because we weren't convinced that was the group for us. We were welcomed and felt very much at home with the Kappa Sigs that evening. We resigned from Phi Gam shortly after.

Tell us about your favorite memory of the fraternity.

There are too many to pick from. We formed friendships that are among my strongest even today. Those were great times at Tech — hard work but hard play as well. I had the opportunity to attend brothers' weddings, had brothers at mine and have been through life changes with many of them. I've always enjoyed reunions and the opportunity to see old friends since graduating over 40 years ago.

What kind of influence has the fraternity had on your life since graduation?

The fraternity was a molding influence during my years at Tech. The opportunities to interact with brothers from different places and backgrounds was an invaluable experience, and of great help in later work and social situations. The close interaction in the house was good training for later work assignments. Kappa Sig brothers are brothers, indeed.

With whom do you still stay in contact?

Don Hodges, my high school friend and first roommate at Tech, retired from Delta and returned to Panama City. He has more time than I do, but we still see each other often. I have met at least annually with **Ben Chilcutt '61**, **George Gannaway**

'61 and **Bud Hill** for the last 30 years. Our children have become friends as well. Sometimes I hear from others when they're in this area. Homecoming has been a great opportunity to see good friends who I rarely hear from. I'd like to hear from **Bill Jahnke '62**, for one.

Tell us about your family: Have you married? Do you have children?

I was married right after graduation, just over 42 years ago, with a number of rowdy Kappa Sigs in attendance. Judy and I have been blessed with three children and nine grandchildren. Fara, our oldest, went to Agnes Scott and married Don Avery. They live in Columbus, Ga., with daughters Amelia (16) and Meredith (12). Dina, our middle child, finished at the University of West Florida. She and her husband, Jeff Stevenson, live in Nashville, Tenn., with Brooke (16), Chelsea Keyser (14), Samantha (14) and Logan Keyser (12). Our son, **Todd Haney '88**, went to Tech and was a Kappa Sigma, and married Scotti (Corbin), who also went to Tech. They live in Lynn Haven, not far from us, and have three children: Sallie (7), Gavin (5) and Corbin (3). We understand that we should not expect more grandchildren, but we're adequately blessed.

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

Studying electrical engineering, and being a co-op student and a Kappa Sig didn't leave much time for other activities, although I was involved in some campus activities during my service as Grand Master. I once made a trip to a Tech/Alabama game as a substitute injured cheerleader, courtesy of **Alan Missroon '62**, but I don't think that counts.



House Corporation to Reorganize Board of Directors

As many of you may be aware, the house corporation is working on a plan to reorganize the board of directors. In the House Corporation Letter sent to the alumni in October 2003, the outline for a new structure for the board was outlined. Most of the current board members date from the 1960s classes, which lends maturity to the board but is sometimes a detriment to communications with the undergraduate chapter. Having a concentration of members from one era also limits the appreciation the board has for the continuing changes that inevitably occur on a college campus.

As background, for those of you who have not been privy to the house corporation's organization, it was developed in the late '70s when the original house corporation was almost defunct. Several then-young alumni got involved in the reorganization of the house corporation and created an organizational structure to deal with some extensive structural problems with the house. A little money was raised from alumni, and badly needed repairs were made to the house. But the repairs were temporary, and there existed a need to upgrade the facility both structurally and mechanically.

The Olympics offered a welcome opportunity to partially fund these much-needed improvements. The house corporation decided to undertake a capital campaign to raise \$500,000 from alumni for that purpose. We hired a consultant to assist in the process, and his first task was to identify likely prospective contributors. What he found was that we had a very disinterested alumni base due primarily to the long inattention of the house corporation, or of whatever alumni support organization was supposed to be in place.

So our first order of business was to establish some credibility with the alumni. We resurrected the "Alpha Tauker" and worked to get out the message that a serious attempt was being made to put in place an organization that had a plan for the future of Kappa Sigma at Tech, an organization that would not fade into the sunset when the current problems were addressed. We were able to raise approximately \$350,000 and, with that amount added to the rent we received from the Olympics and loans from Bank South, we were able to renovate the entire house and construct the second floor on the dorm wing. Thanks to brothers **Walter McDonald '63** and **Ron Mitchell '65**, the whole job was accomplished during the summer break of 1994.

The financial condition of the house corporation is much improved. We have paid off the bank mortgage, and the money paid into the Georgia Tech Foundation actually goes into a fund designated for Alpha Tau's use in the future. Our outstanding mortgage balance is \$323,000. We have a small endowment fund of \$77,000, and with rents and alumni dues we are able to meet our obligations and save some money for contingencies.

All of the existing board members have served since the

early '90s and some since the '70s. It is now time to inject some new blood into the organization, and to that point we make the following proposal for the new house corporation board of directors.

Objective: Broaden representation across generations and insure a continued updating of viewpoints by rotating membership.

Representation: Establish a minimum number of seats per decade. A minimum of two (2) and a maximum of three (3) members of the board would be from each decade beginning pre-'60s through the '00s. All members must have been members of Alpha Tau.

For example, two or three members from 1959 or prior, and two or three from each decade from the 1960s to 2000-09, for a total of 12 seats at the minimum and 18 at the maximum. The decades can be by initiation year or graduation year.

Selections will be developed by a call for volunteers annually in the spring, with the change/reformation occurring at an annual meeting. The annual meeting could be at the beginning of the fall semester, probably at homecoming.

Rotation: The term of individual seat holders will be set at three years. There will be three classes of board members rotating over a three-year cycle. Each class will be refilled with volunteers from the affected decade(s). With the minimum of 12 seats, the classes would be four each, so once we are up and running we would only need to recruit four new members each year.

- The existing board members willing to stay on at least one or two more years will be assigned to decades and classes.
- Once constituted at the annual meeting, the board will elect the required officers, from the membership of the board. Officers of the board would be the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer and house manager.
- The undergraduate chapter's GM, GT and house manager, and the alumni adviser, would be ex-officio members of the board.
- The board would hold at least two meetings per year.
- The current board will work with the new board to develop a program of responsibilities for each of the officers.

It is important for us to get input from the alumni on this plan. Most importantly, we need volunteers. This is a great opportunity to serve Alpha Tau and give something back if you will. Continue the life of this organization at Georgia Tech and the contribution it has made to the university and to so many young men over the past 107 years. ■

The Alpha Tauker is published for the alumni and friends of the **Alpha Tau** Chapter of **Kappa Sigma** Fraternity at **Georgia Tech**. Address changes, news items, photographs and contributions may be sent to **Alpha Tau of Kappa Sigma, Alumni Relations Office, P.O. Box 161188, Atlanta, GA 30321-1188** or sent via our Web site at **www.2stayconnected.com/ks-gt**.

Alumni UpDates

For more alumni news and photos, go to www.2stayconnected.com/ks-gt

George H. Center '42

(2531 Elbow Rd., Orange Park, FL 32073-5504; geleano@aol.com) I remain comfortably retired with my wife, Eleanor, close to the Jacksonville, Fla., NAS for the facilities (hospital, commissary, exchange). We have one great-grandson and four grandchildren. Each year we rendezvous with WWII Air Group 80 veterans, this year in Illinois. So, we are not too old to do that at Alpha Tau of Kappa Sigma.

Donald H. Barnes '52

(10754 Scott Mill Rd., Apt. 14, Jacksonville, FL 32223-6526; donbarnes@aol.com) I enjoyed reading the May 2003 house corporation letter. It was great seeing responses from **Dick Biles '49**, **Joe Sullivan '51** and **Fred Rogers '53**. My wife, Louanne, was the chapter sweetheart for two years, and we celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in September 2001. We have lovely daughters and seven grandchildren. If you are ever in the Jacksonville area, please contact us.

J. Pierce '58

(1299 Ballantrae Farm Dr., McLean,

VA 22101; jap178@aol.com) Sold my architectural firm and am retiring. Now I'm working on my golf game, traveling and doing some teaching in the adult education program. Meanwhile my son, **Gerald Pierce**, is a freshman at Tech, studying architecture and has pledged Kappa Sigma!

William M. Gibson '62

(11286 Big Canoe, Jasper, GA 30143-5105; wgibson@mindspring.com) We've completed our new home here at Big Canoe. Two years in construction, and I'll know later if it was worth it. I recently went flying with **Martin Harrell '59**, my fraternity big brother. He is a new pilot, working on an instrument rating. He does a pretty good job for an ex-Navy guy!

Gordon M. Ryland '69

(80 Interlochen Dr., Atlanta, GA 30342; macr@kurtsalmon.com) Judy and I are still in Atlanta, living out by Chastain Park, and I'm still with KSA after 31 years. I'm looking forward to slowing down some at work beginning in June 2006 when my youngest, Fitz, graduates from Galloway and goes off to college. William is a freshman at Tulane and seems to be doing well. Travel has always been fun for us — skiing, the beach, Europe, Asia, etc. I

also hope to have more time to catch up with the Kappa Sigs we haven't seen for a while.

Joseph C. Antonio '72

(P.O. Box 132, Dowell, MD 20629-0132; julie@tqci.net) I recently began working part time for the National Test Pilot School in Mojave, Calif., as an aeromedical night vision device instructor pilot. My job is to teach test pilots and engineers how to conduct night vision device ground and flight evaluations. I wrote an article concerning my ejection from an A7 at night off the coast of Vietnam (1969), which was recently published in "Foundation," a magazine from the Naval Aviation Museum.

Randall E. Bailey '74

(6915 Oak Brook Way, Cumming, GA 30040; reb3@bellsouth.net) Brothers I would like to see are **Greg Davis '73**, **Phil Peckham '75**, **James Harris '74** and **Steve Klein '74**.

Vincent G. Fettinger '86



(13300 Morris Rd., #139, Alpharetta, GA 30004; vfettinger@msn.com) Dana and I welcomed our daughter, Grace, to the world on Monday, July 28, at 1:53 a.m. She weighed 6 lbs., 12 oz., and was 19 inches long. Even though she was an emergency C-section, both mother and daughter are doing extremely well. To all my brothers out there with little boys: No, she is not going to be available to help earn points for anyone's Black and White team. Been there myself, and it ain't gonna happen.

Thomas M. Potosnak '88

(3 Bloomsbury Ct., Algonquin, IL 60102; remho1@aol.com) It was nice reading through the many alumni updates — it brought back some truly special memories.

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Alumni Profile

Q+A with **Ted Haney '61** continued

Did you live in the house?

I did, and roomed with **Mallie Price '62** for most of the time. Every day with Mallie was memorable, although I've managed to wipe some of them from my memory. We had great times together and still keep up with each other.

What do you do for a living?

I worked as an electrical engineer for 17 years after graduation, then left civil service (Department of the Navy) to join my father's life insurance agency. Since that time I've diversified into financial services, investments and employee benefits with my own agency.

What affiliations do you currently have and/or public service do you participate in?

I've been active in the local chamber of commerce, the Jaycees in the early days, industry organizations, Rotary Club,

the local airport authority, the Board of Trustees of the Gulf Coast Community College, the Bay County Republican Party, the United Way and other charitable organizations, and my church. I'm most active now in my church, the Crown Financial Ministries and Rotary.

What hobbies do you enjoy?

Fishing — bass and saltwater — when I can get away, and camping and hiking. I enjoy racquetball, but the lack of nearby facilities has put that on hold.

What are your goals for the next few years?

To spend a little more time smelling the roses and enjoying our grandchildren. Judy works with me, mostly handling the income and bills, so reducing time in the office is our goal. We keep looking at those great Tech-sponsored cruises and overseas trips, and wishing. ■

Alumni UpDates

I'm the director of marketing for System Sensor, a leading manufacturer of commercial smoke detectors and other life safety equipment. My wife, Carolyn, and I live in Algonquin, Ill., a suburb about 40 miles west of Chicago. During the summer, we met up with Kim and **Robb Stanek '90**, their sweet baby (Kate) and **Bob Amos '89**, who's moved to Chicago. It was great seeing everyone, and we hope to get together with Bob now that he's in Chi-town. Carolyn and I marked our 10th wedding anniversary in September on — you guessed it — September 11. For obvious reasons we've begun celebrating our anniversary on September 10 instead. Though Carolyn and I have been unsuccessful in starting a family, we're excited about starting on the path of adoption. If you hear of someone who is pregnant and is considering placing their child for adoption, please let them know about us. Our toll-free number is 888-664-9455, or check us out on the Web at www.centerforfamily.com/carolynandtomm.html. If you happen to visit the Chicagoland area, please look us up. Our home phone number is 847-854-2093. AEKDB!

Richard L. Kimball '91

(1865 Claremont St., Atlanta, GA 30318-3015) We joyfully announce the birth of our daughter, Cabot, on June 17, 2003. Cabot joins her sister, Reece (2 1/2 years old).

William V. Chafin '93

(136 Pine Needle Rd., Aiken, SC 29803-9450; wchafin@mindspring.com) We are

expecting our third child in March '04 and decided to find a little more room for our expanding family. We are still in Aiken, S.C., where I am a marketing manager for AGY, a fiberglass manufacturing company that was originally part of Owens Corning. In an ironic twist, the house we moved into in October is right next door to the house where brothers **Keith Rothwell '92** and **Matt Rothwell '01** grew up. Come see us if travels bring you through or to Aiken.

Mark T. Singleton '93

(1953 Hedge Brooke Pl., Acworth, GA 30101-7104; hmsingle@logicsouth.com) I am a chemical engineer with an MBA, 10 years of operations and manufacturing experience, and I have a Six Sigma black-belt certification. I am seeking employment in the Atlanta area, where I currently live. Please contact me at 770-427-2867 (home) or 404-808-5472 (mobile) or hmsingle@logicsouth.com if you know of any leads that may be a fit.

Charles A. McPhail '96



(1603 Brooke St., Canton, GA 30115; charlie.mcphail@intel.com) Shana and I are thrilled to announce the birth of our son, William Brett (Brett), on August 20, 2003. He came in at 6 lbs., 13 oz., and 20.5 inches long. All are very healthy and doing well, and Emily, our 18-month-old daughter, is slowly adjusting to her little brother. Shana and I also recently bought a house in Canton.

J. Brent Wright '94

(4903 Turnberry Ln., Columbus, GA 31909; wright@knology.net) I have recently started my own structural engineering firm in Columbus, Ga. All is well with my wife and two sons! ■

Chapter Celestial

We regret to inform you of the death of

Hal. L. Smith '26

Norman Norwood Burnes '34

James B. Murray Jr. '34

James M. Bagley Jr. '40

Burton C. Coit '42

Elzie R. Wheeler Jr. '51

Claud J. Lackey Jr. '58

Kendrick S. Green

E. English Thornwell '58

English was a fourth-generation resident of Atlanta and the great-grandson of Capt. James W. English, the mayor of Atlanta in 1880. At Tech he was a member of ANAK, the Alpha Nu Kappa honor society, and the Ramblin' Wreck Club. Commissioned as an officer in the Navy, he served two years in the Pacific aboard an aircraft carrier. He later had a successful career in securities and was associated with Montag & Caldwell. Most recently he operated inns in the north Georgia mountains in Lakemont and Clayton.

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

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